



# Selfless Leadership, Bold Solutions for Jobs and Business

NEW PATRIOTIC PARTY (NPP) **2024**  
MANIFESTO FOR ELECTION

*“[The Party’s] policy is to liberate the energies of the people for the growth of a property-owning democracy in this land, with right to life, freedom and justice, as the principles to which the Government and laws of the land should be dedicated in order specifically to enrich life, property and liberty of each and every citizen.”*

**Dr. J. B. Danquah**



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# My Vision for Ghana

The dire economic challenges created by the recent global health emergency, and other geopolitical events, have hit people very hard all over the world, Ghanaians included. Our collective efforts and sacrifices are the reason we are already seeing a turnaround in the economy. Thank you.

I have been inspired by the fortitude, resilience, and ingenuity of Ghanaians in overcoming our challenges. It is what gives me confidence, that when the need arises, we can tap into the reassuring, calming guidance of our older generation; the ambitiousness of our young professionals; the entrepreneurial spirit and resilience of our hardworking adult population; and above all, the energy, creativity, and innovativeness of our youth to, together, build a future of possibilities.

Everywhere I have been in our country, our hopes and aspirations are the same. We want a united Ghana that desires to do and achieve great things, and to do right by its people. Above all, we desire leaders who wake up every day thinking about making our lives better, not theirs.

I offered myself to be elected President because our hopes and aspirations are aligned, and I believe that together, we have a once in a lifetime opportunity to change the narrative of what Ghana can achieve. It is possible!

My life in public service has been one of selflessness; of putting the needs of Ghanaians first, irrespective of one's religious beliefs, social status, gender, or level of education. **I have never once asked, "what is in it for me?"** Every initiative I have championed and led has been about creating an environment that supports and brings out the best in our youth, that creates opportunities for Persons with Disability, that uplifts Ghanaian businesses and entrepreneurs, and that focuses on the greater good.

In service to you, our country and our peoples, I have demonstrated that it is possible to achieve a lot if we put our minds to, and work very hard at it.

I have demonstrated that we can bring diverse communities together, under one tent, as a nation, to live in peace and harmony with each other.

The times we live in calls for leadership that places you first. For selfless leaders. For leaders with integrity. Leaders who will put everything on the line and go battling for you, for Ghanaians, every day, and night, no matter what it takes, or the arena in which it happens.

I believe I have demonstrated my selflessness and personal integrity for all to see. I commit to you, a values-based, selfless leadership as your President. I commit to demonstrating to you, especially the next generation, that it is possible to have visionary, selfless leadership of integrity in your lifetime.

But that is not all. We are in the middle of a global revolution; the Fourth Industrial Revolution. It is reshaping and disrupting our world in so many ways. And rapidly too. Entire industries have, and continue to be, disrupted by the technologies powering this revolution, including blockchain technologies, artificial intelligence (AI), data analytics, cloud computing, robotics and engineering, quantum computing, augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), IOT (Internet of things), advanced materials, digital manufacturing, and mobile internet, among others.

Ghana cannot afford to be left behind.

Fortunately, we have an innovative, creative, and energised human resource base in our youth, with the capabilities to rise, under the right leadership, to the occasion. Leadership with bold solutions for this new future.

I have demonstrated my understanding of the issues, my commitment, and my willingness to lead Ghana, especially our youth, in taking advantage of the opportunities a digital, high-tech world provides.

*My vision is to create a tent big enough to accommodate all our peoples, to tap into the resourcefulness and talents of our people irrespective of our different political and religious views, to channel our energies into building the kind of country that assures a safe, prosperous, and dignified future for all Ghanaians, and to create sustainable jobs with meaningful pay for all, and for Ghana to participate fully in the global digital revolution.*

If you want a President you can trust to initiate and drive innovative and impactful ideas to transform Ghana; who has personal integrity, and can be trusted to fight corruption; a President you can trust to work hard, tirelessly and selflessly, for Ghana; who has a proven track record to create jobs for the youth; a man with the vision and commitment to prepare Ghana for the

Fourth Industrial Revolution; a man committed to protecting and using our natural resources for the benefit of Ghanaians, I am your man for the job.

Above all, if you want a President who would be more accountable to Ghanaians and will take a long-term view of developing Ghana because he will have to resubmit himself to you, Ghanaians, again, after this year's election as a President, I am your man.

I have clarity in my mind on what to do from Day One when you elect me as your President. I am prepared, and ready to work when you give me the opportunity. Together, we can succeed in building a progressive society of possibilities, enterprise, compassion, open opportunities and shared prosperity for every Ghanaian born rich or poor, born in the north or the south, born Christian, Muslim or of other faith, or born girl or boy.

I have the courage to accept when things do not go as well as planned, but I also have a mindset of possibilities, and faith in ourselves, that we can rise and achieve great things in our lifetime. I am focused on practical, achievable, high-value objectives with destiny-changing payoffs for the next generation, and with your help, will execute well.

What I am offering you, and every Ghanaian of every creed or faith, age, gender, social status, or ability, is a values-based, **Selfless Leadership** with **Bold Solutions for Jobs and Business**.

I am excited about the prospects of the nation we are building, and the brilliant minds being nurtured. Join me, as I seek to provide a problem-solving leadership of integrity for the next generation.

I invite you to vote for me as your President, and for NPP candidates as your Members of Parliament, so together, we can deliver on this bright future for all.

It is Possible!



**Mahamudu Bawumia**  
Presidential Candidate



**Matthew Opoku Prempeh**  
**Vice Presidential Candidate**

## Chairman's Remarks

Over the past eight years, the New Patriotic Party (NPP) government, under the leadership of H.E. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, has made significant progress across the whole-of-government.

We have kept faith with Ghanaians, despite the challenges of the CoVID-19 pandemic, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and the crashed economy we inherited from the previous, NDC government.

These challenges notwithstanding, we have created over 2.3 million jobs to date; kept public sector workers employed and paid, in full, even during the Pandemic; increased access to 5.7 million young adults to secondary education through the flagship Free Senior High School/Technical and Vocational Education and Training (SHS/TVET) policy; consistently fed over 4 million children in the early years and in primary schools through the Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP); kept the lights on for eight years to power homes, businesses and industries; kept the banking sector strong and resilient after cleaning it up; and registered over 18 million people for the GhanaCard, which we have merged with other public databases (tax identification, social security, driver licenses, public payroll, criminal records, and SIM Cards) to ensure seamless provision of government services.

Once again, we are coming to you, to seek re-election, at a time of great change all over the world. The world of work, and the talents and skills required to stay relevant, is being disrupted by digital technologies. Manufacturing is no longer about smokestacks: digital manufacturing, aided by robotics, has taken over. Blockchain technologies are changing how financial services are delivered to excluded communities, while virtual and mixed reality technologies are enabling new ways of collaborating in the workplace, including on design and engineering projects.

As a party, we have demonstrated that even under challenging conditions, the NPP can, and does provide the leadership we need to turn things around. A time such as this one.



Ghana needs a leader who is a problem-solver, is selfless, has foresight, and bold solutions that taps into these technologies to enable our youth stake a claim in the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

H.E. Dr. Mahamudu Bawumia, Vice President of the Republic, and our candidate for the 2024 Presidential election, has ably assisted President Akufo-Addo in the major milestones we have achieved over the past eight years. He has also been the key architect of our digitalisation drive, including the unprecedented digitisation of government services, and building of the foundations of a digital economy in Ghana.

Under a Bawumia presidency, you, and Ghanaians, can be assured of strong, focused leadership in accelerating investments in, and repositioning our workforce, to take advantage of the jobs and opportunities the Fourth Industrial Revolution brings.

In changing times, you need a steady hand, and a man with a long-term vision of the future. A vision that will not be sacrificed on the altar of short-term political considerations.

As you vote in this year's election, I invite you to join us, and vote for Dr. Bawumia as President, and all NPP Parliamentary Candidates as Members of Parliament, so we can build a resilient Ghana for the next generation.



**Stephen Ntim**





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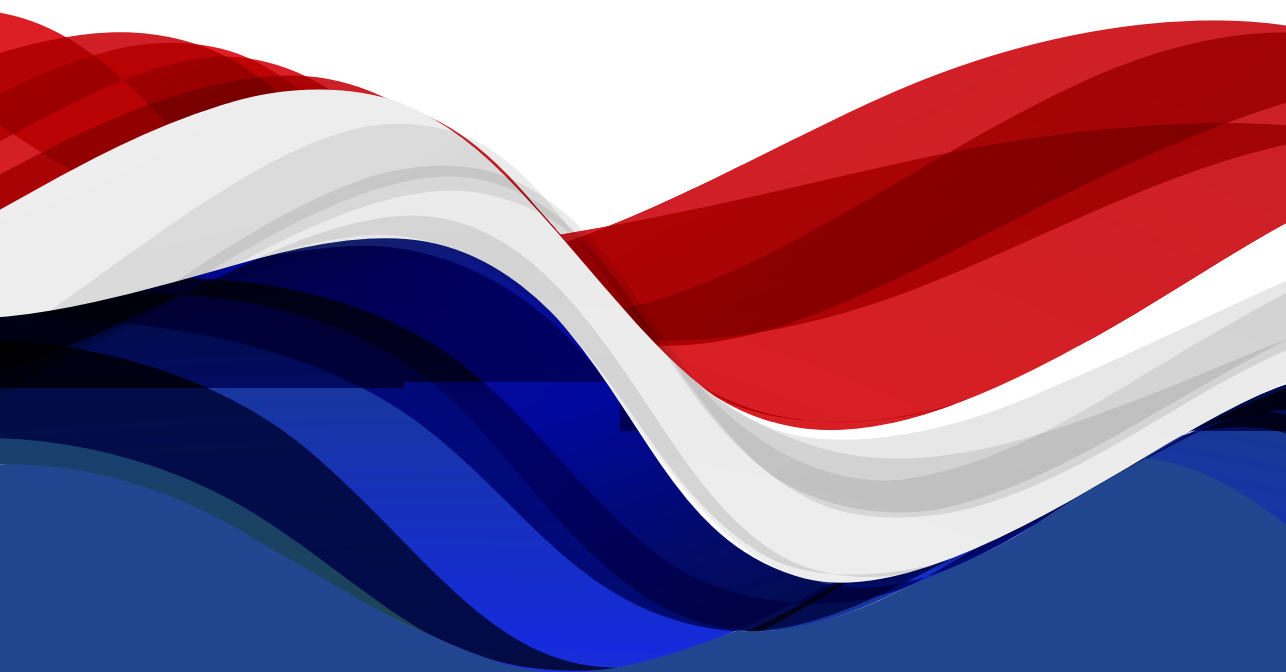
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# 1. BACKGROUND



## What We Inherited

### **By the end of 2016, Ghana's economy was in deep crisis.**

Growth had consistently fallen, year after year from 2011 (when oil production started), until it reached the lowest point of 3.4% at the end of 2016. The preceding four years was a period of macroeconomic instability, characterised by both internal and external imbalances. Between 2013 and 2016, the cedi depreciated by an average 17.7%, and the Extended Credit Facility (ECF) programme with the International Monetary Fund ("IMF", "Fund") had gone off the rails.

Other defining characteristics of the economy we inherited were:

- government could not meet critical obligations, including Tier 2 pension funds of public sector workers dating back to 2010, amounting to GH¢3.1 billion
- US\$13 million in arrears, owed to our peacekeeping personnel on UN and related duties, have accumulated, with no plans to pay the security officers
- the country had been through five years of Dumsor (debilitating power cuts), which adversely affected growth in the industrial and services sectors of the economy. The loss in production due to Dumsor alone was estimated at about US\$680 million annually. This disproportionately affected the livelihoods of small business owners, including seamstresses, barbers, salons, and welders, leading to crushed dreams and mass loss of income and jobs
- the Volta River Authority (VRA), Ghana Grid Company (GRIDCO), Tema Oil Refinery (TOR) and the Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG) were heavily indebted to banks, threatening their stability. The then government compounded the situation by procuring thirty-two hastily signed "Take or Pay" Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs). The nature of these agreements meant government was obligated to pay for power it was not supplied with, nor used by consumers. This imposed serious debts on government, and is responsible for the high level of energy tariffs consumers suffered
- financial services firms, including banks, microfinance institutions and asset management companies, were also in crisis. The resulting

liquidity challenges led to many financial institutions unable to honour depositor withdrawals and investment redemptions, and

- the then government was racked by high levels of official corruption, including “create, loot and share” schemes using judgment debts against the state as vehicles. This was happening at a time teachers posted to duty stations were not being paid, allowances for nurse and teacher trainees had been cancelled, and government could not supply basic items such as chalk to schools.

## **Ghana Under the Akufo-Addo-led NPP Administration**

**Ghana’s economy under NPP has made positive strides, recent challenges notwithstanding.**

The economy, from 2017 to 2019, was characterised by strong growth, low inflation, low budget deficits, a stable currency, and trade surpluses. Ghana’s growth trajectory rebounded to above 6% over the period, and targeted real GDP growth rate for the following year, 2020, was expected to be about 7%. We had renegotiated an extension of the derailed, NDC-contracted ECF programme when we came into office, and successfully exited in 2019.

Inflation dropped within the target band of  $8 \pm 2\%$ , falling as low as 7.9% in 2019, the lowest in 28 years. The low inflation was already attracting calls for retargeting the rate, as some analysts then believed that Ghana would outperform the lower band of 6%. The average bank lending rate also declined, from 30.7% in 2016 to 26.2% in 2017, 24% in 2018 and further down to 23.6% in 2019. The cedi stabilised, depreciating annually by about 5% during the period.

There was significant improvement in the fiscal deficit (cash basis), from about 8% of GDP in 2016 to under 5% of GDP in 2018 and 2019. Indeed, the overall fiscal deficit remained within the Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA) threshold of less than 5% of GDP.

These positive milestones were achieved despite the significant challenges inherited, two of which, the cost-burden of the Take-or-Pay Power Purchase Agreements and the costs incurred bailing out the financial services sector, both direct results of the mismanagement of the NDC government, were constant systemic risks.

**Then the COVID-19 pandemic hit**, the resulting supply chain disruptions leading to rises in the price of oil, and therefore significant increases in the cost of fuel, freight and food across the globe. The Pandemic was “a crisis like no other.” At its beginning, the Managing Director of the IMF warned: “Pandemics don’t respect borders, neither do the economic shocks they cause. The outlook is dire, [and] we expect global economic activity to decline on a scale we have not seen since the Great Depression.” The size and scale of the shock has been borne out by its still lingering effects on many economies, including Ghana’s.

### **We managed the pandemic competently, to global acclaim.**

Ghana was among the first in the world to introduce rapid testing at airports, and to introduce sample pooling in testing Covid samples. Thousands of health professionals were recruited and incentivised, to help with the ‘test, trace and treat’ strategy to contain the virus. We evacuated Ghanaians stranded in foreign countries, increased the number of test laboratories, supplied Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) to hospitals and other health facilities, created and managed isolation centres across the country, and treated and cared for all infected persons. The Government also provided support to families and households, with free or subsidised electricity, as well as free water. It also provided soft loans to SMEs. We were the first country to receive a COVAX vaccine shipment in early March 2021, and administered up to 29 million vaccine doses. Finally, Government managed the safe return of students and school children to school, and ensured that no student (especially those in their final years) lost an academic year.

**However, just as the economy had begun to recover, another global crisis was to hit, when Russia invaded Ukraine** in February 2022, followed by geopolitical tensions.

Despite these headwinds, in keeping with the now famous words of President Akufo-Addo that “*we know how to bring the economy back to life,*” we have managed to steer the economy unto a reasonable growth path.

Real GDP growth rate (non-oil) grew by 4.9% between 2021 and 2023, whereas it was 3.2% on average between 2013 and 2016. With proceeds from oil production, the average growth rate between 2013 and 2016 was 2.9%. This compares to 3.9% between 2021 and 2023.

This shows that the post-COVID-19 GDP growth (oil inclusive) is higher under our management of the economy, compared to the period 2013-2016 under the NDC government.

The data further shows that between 2017-2022 (Covid-19 period inclusive), the industry sector growth of 5% outperformed the 3.3% recorded under the NDC government (2013-2016).

For 2017-2022, the agriculture sector grew at 5.9%, underpinned by the “Planting for Food and Jobs (PFJ)” and “Rearing for Food and Jobs” initiatives, compared to 2.8% in the 2013-2016 period.

The data clearly shows the economy has done well under NPP, and is firmly on a path of recovery:

- the economy has grown by over US\$20 billion since 2016, from US\$56 billion to US\$76 billion by end of December 2023, compared to the about US\$8.8 billion between 2013 to 2016
- GDP per capita has increased significantly from US\$1,978 in 2016 to US\$2,436 in 2023
- GDP grew by 2.9% in 2023 (compared to the original projection of 1.5%, and the revised projection of 2.3%), and further, to 4.7% in Quarter 1 of 2024 (4.2% Non-Oil), the highest since Q1 of 2022, an indicator that the economy is on the path to recovery. Industry grew the most at 6.8%, followed by Agriculture at 4.1% and Services at 3.3%. The 2024 Q1 GDP growth rate for industry is the highest since Q4 of 2020
- Inflation declined from 54.1% at the end of 2022 to 23.2% at the end of December 2023. This trend has continued, declining to 22.8% in June and further to 20.9% in July 2024. It is expected to decline considerably to 15% by the end of 2024, continuing over the medium-term horizon to return to the target band of  $8 \pm 2\%$  by 2025
- Exchange rates have largely stabilised, with the depreciation of the Cedi against the US Dollar improving from 54.2% at the end of November 2022 to 27.8% at the end of Dec 2023. The Cedi's stability has continued into 2024, with a cumulative depreciation of 18.6% as of June 2024, compared to 22% recorded in the same period in 2023

- Gross International Reserves (GIR) stands at US\$6.9 billion as of June 2024, covering 3.1 months of import cover. In the medium term, GIR is expected to improve to at least 4.4 months of import cover
- Ghana has finally reached agreement with Independent Power Producers (IPPs) to restructure legacy arrears and Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), after six (6) years of negotiations. This will provide some fiscal relief and savings over the life of the PPAs, as well as guarantee a more reliable supply of power
- Following the completion of domestic debt structuring of about GH¢203.4 billion in 2023, Ghana reached agreement with the Official Creditor Committee (OCC) under the G20 Common Framework on 11th June, 2024 to restructure our official bilateral loans totalling US\$5.1 billion, with an estimated debt service relief of US\$2.8 billion between 2023- 2026
- Ghana also reached agreement with our Eurobond holders on 19th June 2024, to restructure Eurobonds amounting to \$13.1 billion, with a debt cancellation of roughly US\$4.7 billion and debt service savings from 2023 to 2026 of about US\$4.4 billion, and
- Public Debt is showing signs of improvement. The Debt-to-GDP ratio reduced to 71.4% at the end of 2023 from 73.5% at the end of 2022. We are making progress toward achieving the medium-term target of a debt to GDP ratio of 55%.

We conclude by reminding ourselves that despite the economic decline, distressed banking sector, and unconscionable power sector contracts we inherited at the beginning of 2017, and the subsequent turbulence of the global economy, we have, under the Akufo-Addo-led administration, delivered programmes and results that have positively affected the lives, communities, livelihoods and businesses of Ghanaians. Among many others, we:

1. created over 2.3 million jobs since 2017. World Development Index data shows the unemployment rate in Ghana average 3% between 2017 and 2019, compared to 5% in 2016, while youth unemployment averaged 6% over the same period, down from 10% in 2016
2. kept public sector workers employed and fully paid even during the COVID-19 Pandemic

3. initiated, or oversaw the construction and rehabilitation of more railways than any other government since 1992 (Achimota-Nsawam, Accra-Tema, Kojokrom-Tarkwa, Kojokrom–Manso, Tema-Mpakadan)
4. extended more rural telephony network than any other government since 1992 (increasing from 78 sites to 1008 sites)
5. constructed more public libraries than any other government since 1992. We have increased the total number of public libraries from 61 in 2017 to 115 by 2023
6. constructed more fish landing sites than any other government since 1992, including Axim, Dixcove, Moree, Mumford, Winneba, Senya Breku, Gomoa Fetteh, Teshie, Osu, Ekumfi, and Mfantseman
7. constructed two major fishing harbours in Elmina and James Town
8. constructed more sanitation facilities (817) than any other government since 1992. As a result, we have increased the proportion of the population with access to toilet facilities from 33% in 2016 to 80.8% in 2023. Also, 5,400 communities have been declared open-defecation-free since 2017. This has resulted in a virtual elimination of cholera in Ghana
9. constructed more sports facilities than any other government since 1992. We have completed six new multi-purpose sports stadiums, and four ongoing in each of the ten “old” regions, completed the University of Ghana Stadium in Legon, built multi-sports facilities at Borteyman for the African Games, as well as increased public AstroTurfs in Ghana from 3 in 2016 to 150, with many more at various stages of development
10. significantly improved the operational capabilities of the Ghana Police Service by providing 933 vehicles, 4,202 motorbikes, and 3 helicopters, improving their mobility and presence across the country
11. abolished the 3-month arrears policy for teachers and cleared all accumulated arrears between 2011 and 2022
12. constructed more courts and accommodation for the judiciary than any other government since 1992, including 120 courts (80 completed) and 150 bungalows for the judiciary
13. kept the lights on for eight years after five years of Dumsor
14. restored Teacher and Nurse Trainee allowances that were cancelled

15. increased Scholarship beneficiaries by 70%
16. extended NHIS coverage to childhood cancers, Hydroxyurea for sickle cell patients, and Dialysis treatment
17. saved the deposits of 4.6 million bank depositors by saving the near collapsed banking system we inherited
18. tripled the capitation grant per child from GH¢5 in 2016 to GH¢15 in 2024
19. settled the US\$13 million arrears owed to peacekeeping personnel, and increased their allowances from US\$30 to US\$35 per soldier per day
20. had the lowest increase in electricity tariffs in recent history. Between 2009 and 2016, the average annual increase in end-user electricity tariffs was 50% per year. Between 2017 and 2023 on the other hand, the average annual increase was 11.1%. This is the lowest annual average increase in electricity tariffs for any government since 1992
21. abolished or reduced 21 separate taxes in our first term (before the global crisis)
22. reduced import duties by 50% between 2019 and 2021
23. introduced the National Rental Assistance Scheme (NRAS) to assist people with rent advance. So far 1,393 people have benefited from the scheme
24. increased the share of the District Assemblies Common Fund (DACF) to Persons With Disability (PWDs) by 50%
25. reduced infant mortality per 1000 live births from 37.9 in 2016 to 32.6 in 2021
26. increased expenditure on the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) programme from GH¢49 million in 2016 to GH¢423 million by 2023
27. increased expenditure on the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) from GH¢ 1.1 billion in 2016 to GH¢ 6.8 billion in 2024
28. have, through digitisation, increased NHIS active membership from 10.8 million in 2018 to over 17 million people in 2023

29. introduced the largest medical drone service in the world, to efficiently deliver medical supplies and improve healthcare access in remote areas. 2,694 health facilities have been onboarded on the Zipline Drone Services as of August 2023
30. implemented Free SHS/TVET with an increase in enrolment from 813,448 in 2016/17 to 1.48 million in 2023/24, an increase of 83% over the period. 2023 recorded the highest-ever first-year enrolment in Free SHS/TVET of around 554,034 students, highlighted by a remarkable 95% enrolment rate in the Northern Regions. The students' performance at WASSCE is also the best in the history of the examination, and have also achieved gender parity
31. fed over 4 million beneficiaries under the Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP) in 2024, compared to 1.6 million in 2016
32. have absorbed examination fees for all students for BECE and WASSCE examinations
33. doubled the number of student loan recipients, from 30,000 on average per year before its introduction to 58,000 currently, by removing the guarantor policy under the Student Loan Trust Fund (SLTF)
34. registered over 18 million people for the GhanaCard and merged separate public databases (tax identification, social security, driver licenses, public payroll, criminal records, SIM Cards etc) to ensure easy access to government services
35. rolled out the National Digital Property Addressing System with 8 million address plates affixed to homes
36. introduced Mobile Money Interoperability (MMI) which has led to Ghana achieving 100% financial inclusion
37. procured 900,000 tablets for distribution to all secondary school students, and distributed 2,718 vehicles of all types to various agencies under the Ministry of Education, helping to improve access and reducing inequalities in education
38. added 134.1 MW of renewable energy to our energy mix, from a low of 37.7 in 2016 to 171.8 MW
39. improved monthly ECG collection through the digitisation drive. The introduction of its mobile app, PowerApp, has increased monthly

collection to over GH¢1 billion, from an average of GH¢450 million monthly

40. distributed 20,000 LPG cook stoves under the LPG for Development Programme
41. 430,000 stoves have been distributed to promote clean cooking with charcoal, and to reduce the harmful effects of smoke
42. renovated existing stadia across the country including the Accra Sports Stadium, Baba Yara Stadium, and Cape Coast Stadium
43. instituted the “Year of Return” and “Beyond the Return,” which have attracted waves of visitors and investors to Ghana, spotlighted our cultural vibrancy and historical significance to the world, and created further momentum for the emergence of initiatives such as ‘December in GH’
44. restored the iconic Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park
45. under the Infrastructure for Poverty Eradication Project (IPEP), re-aligned priority spending to ensure that each of the 275 constituencies was directly given resources to undertake infrastructure projects. 1,609 projects have been completed under IPEP, to promote inner city development across the country, including small dams to support all year farming, rural markets, and community-based mechanised water systems
46. made significant investments in healthcare infrastructure by building new hospitals, clinics, and facilities, embarking on the massive Agenda 111 project, as well as completing abandoned and other inherited projects as follows (see Chapter 10.1.2.2 for details):
  - completed 6 of the 9 stalled and abandoned “Euroget” health sector projects
  - started and completed new, 47 non-Agenda 111 hospitals, clinics and healthcare projects, including 21 Clinics through IPEP
  - started 17 non-Agenda 111 hospitals, clinics and healthcare projects currently at various stages of completion, including 5 Clinics through IPEP
  - started 21 new Treatment and Holding Centres, 13 of which have been completed

- started the Agenda 111 hospitals and healthcare projects made up of 104 (originally 101) District Hospitals, 7 Regional Hospitals, 2 Regional Psychiatric Hospitals, and 1 National Psychiatric Hospital (Accra Psychiatric Hospital)
  - completed 17 other inherited hospital projects, and
  - completed 428 CHPs compounds and 230 Health Centres
47. procured 307 Ambulances for distribution to each Constituency, and all Regional and Teaching Hospitals, to enhance healthcare delivery
48. improved food security through the “Planting for Food and Jobs,” “Rearing for Food and Jobs,” “One Village, One Dam,” and “One District, One Warehouse” initiatives
49. accelerated the diversification of the economy through the “One District, One Factory” and “Strategic Anchor” initiatives. Over GH¢500 million invested so far
50. substantially augmented the personnel strength across all Security and Intelligence Agencies (SIAs), including:
- increasing the number of the Ghana Police Service by almost 40% (from 33,213 in 2016 to 46,116) in 2023
  - more than doubling the number of personnel in the Fire Service from 7,000 in 2016 to 15,000 by 2023
  - more than doubling Ghana Prisons Service personnel from 5,431 in 2016 to 11,472 in 2023
  - more than tripling the Ghana Immigration Service workforce from 4,270 in 2016 to 13,646 in 2023, and
  - significantly increasing the staffing levels of the Narcotics Control Commission (from 553 to 927), National Commission on Small Arms and Light Weapons (from 13 to 75), Ghana Refugee Board (from 32 to 52), National Peace Council (from 17 to 67), Gaming Commission (from 47 to 70), and National Disaster Management Organisation (from 6,101 to 6,185)
51. made significant investments in the infrastructure of various Security and Intelligence Agencies (SIAs), including Phases I and II of the Barracks Regeneration Project, the Transformation Agenda of the Ghana Police Service, and the Military Housing Project for the

Ghana Armed Forces. Since 2017, 1,000 housing units have been constructed to support the accommodation needs of security services personnel. Two additional Data Centres and Emergency Command Centre (ECC) facilities in Kumasi and Tamale have been established, and, the completion of Alpha Phase I by the National Signals Bureau marked a significant milestone under which over 11,000 cameras and 65 automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) sites have been deployed to enhance surveillance and response capabilities

52. through the Zongo Development Fund, constructed more infrastructure and implemented more development policies in the Zongo communities than any other government since 1992. Over 200 infrastructure projects has completed through the Fund
53. attained a Balance of Trade surplus for the first time in over 22 years
54. established the Nation Builders Corps (NABCO) and recruited more than 100,000 graduates for four years. 34,000 of the trainees obtained permanent employment
55. paid the outstanding pension fund contributions of public sector workers we inherited
56. established Seventy-Five (75) Greenhouses at Dawhenya to enhance vegetable production
57. established the National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (NEIP) with over 15,000 small businesses funded, and 250,000 young entrepreneurs given entrepreneurial training
58. passed the Right to Information Act
59. passed the Affirmative Action Act
60. constructed 80,000-metric-ton warehouses under “One District, One Warehouse” Initiative
61. constructed about 400 out of the 560 small earth dams in the 5 northern regions in fulfilment of the “One Village, One Dam” promise
62. increased the road network from 78,000km to nearly 100,000km, including 2,000km of asphaltic overlay and rehabilitation and maintenance of over 12,000km of roads. These network improvements included the construction of 12 multi-tier interchanges in Accra, Tema, Kumasi, Tamale and Takoradi, 6 of which have been completed with another 6 under construction

63. completed and commissioned Phase II and III of the Prempeh I International Airport (Kumasi) project, involving the construction of a new terminal building capable of handling one million passengers yearly, car park, apron, and access roads; Phase 1 of the Sunyani Airport rehabilitation; and upgraded and commissioned the Yakubu Tali International Airport (Tamale)
64. implemented a paperless system at the ports
65. digitised the operations of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA)
66. implemented a motor insurance database that allows anyone to check the insurance status of any vehicle on a mobile phone
67. streamlined the processes for arrival and departure at the Kotoka International Airport (KIA) to make it one of the quickest airports for processing arriving passengers in the world
68. networked and digitised the records of all Teaching, Regional and District hospitals in Ghana. Referrals of patients from one jurisdiction to another no longer requires that the patient's folder be physically transported
69. implemented an E-Pharmacy platform with all pharmacies in Ghana onboarded, the first in Africa and one of a few in the world
70. implemented a one-stop portal (Ghana.Gov) for all MMDAs. 1,507 MMDAs out of 1,517 (99%) have so far been onboarded on the platform
71. addressed various internal security challenges, including land and chieftaincy disputes, of note being the resolution of the long-standing Dagbon crisis
72. implemented far-reaching policies, passed legislation, and allocated resources to fight corruption, including:
  - enacting the Right to Information Act, 2019 (Act 989)
  - enacting the Witness Protection Act, 2018 (Act 975)
  - enacting the Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act, 2020 (Act 1034)
  - enacting the Anti-Money Laundering Act, 2020 (Act 1044)
  - rolling out the Ghana.Gov Platform

- increasing budgetary allocations to the Police (162%), the Audit Service (83%) and CHRAJ (21%) at the end of 2021, compared to 2016
- set up an Office of Special Prosecutor by enacting the Office of Special Prosecutor Act, 2017 (Act 959), and
- instituting a Value-For-Money assessment regime for single-sourced and restricted tender applications, which has resulted in GH¢2.3 billion savings between 2019 and 2021

By making basic education accessible to millions of young Ghanaians, creating millions of jobs, investing in massive infrastructure across all sectors, issuing biometric identity cards to over 18 million Ghanaians and residents and integrating public databases to underpin Ghana's digital economy, ensuring 100% financial inclusion through the introduction of Mobile Money Interoperability (MMI), and the efficient delivery of government services through digitisation, it is clear that the NPP administration has built a solid foundation upon which to leapfrog into the Fourth Industrial Revolution, to create jobs and opportunities for the next generation.

14

We are proud of what we have achieved together, with the support of the people of Ghana.

It is time, once again, to ask for the mandate of Ghanaians. This Manifesto lays out our comprehensive plan to take Ghana to the next level of growth and prosperity, under a **problem-solving, selfless leader with integrity, with bold solutions for jobs and business**, our Flagbearer, and current Vice President of the Republic, Dr. Mahamudu Bawumia.

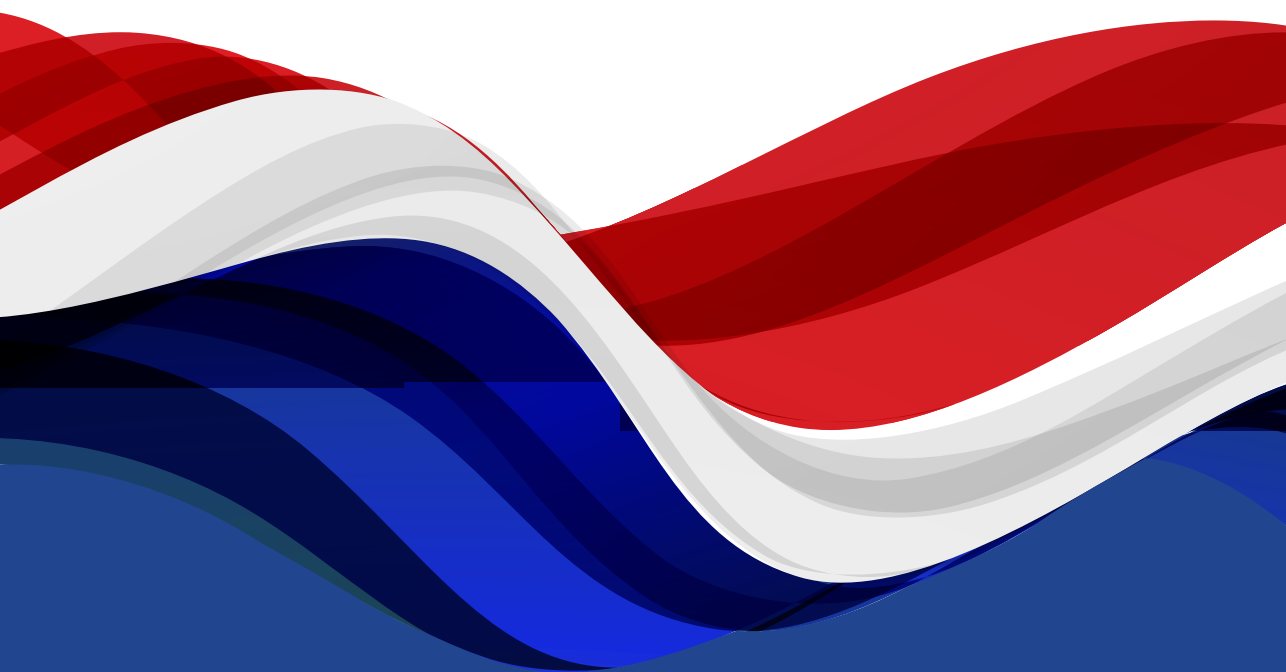
**To see the full dashboard on how we have transformed all sectors over the past eight years, visit the official Performance Tracker website at <https://performancetracker.gov.gh/>.**







## 2. OUR COMMITMENTS TO YOU



**Our number one priority is to stimulate businesses and create jobs, with a strong focus on the private sector.**

**Our commitment to you** is to invest in the growth of Ghanaian businesses, create millions of secure jobs for the youth, ensure individual and collective prosperity, safe communities, and to offer you a problem-solving leadership of integrity.

To deliver on these commitments, **we pledge to:**

## **1. SUSTAIN AND EXPAND GHANA'S REBOUNDED ECONOMY**

- **further accelerate the growth and expansion of the economy over the next four years.** We increased the size of the economy by US\$20 billion since 2016, from US\$56 billion to US\$76 billion by end of December 2023
- **achieve, and sustain an average 6% growth** by expanding Agriculture, Mining (including establishing Minerals Development Bank), 1D1F, Emerging Industries, Digital Hub & Services, Sports, Tourism, and Creative Arts
- **increase Public-Private-Partnerships (PPPs)** as an important funding model for delivering public infrastructure projects
- **establish an independent Fiscal Responsibility Council** to oversee Fiscal Policy, and
- **amend the Fiscal Responsibility Act to add a new fiscal rule** that requires that expenditure in any year does not exceed 105% of the previous year's tax revenue

## 2. CREATE NEW JOBS:

Under the Akufo-Addo-led administration, notwithstanding the unexpected global economic crisis, we have created over 2.3 million jobs in the past 8 years. This is more jobs created than any other government has managed to do in 8 years. But we need to create more jobs than we have done and that is why we commit to:

- **train 1,000,000 youth** in digital skills
- **create jobs through private-sector** construction and infrastructure development, industrialisation, and Agribusiness
- create jobs through the **Tax Amnesty Programme**
- **create jobs for artisans** (carpenters, masons, welders etc) and built environment professionals, to maintain public infrastructure, **through a revived and resourced PWD**
- create SME jobs with the **introduction of The SME Bank**
- create jobs through the **minerals industry, and its value chain** (aluminium, gold, lithium, manganese, salt etc)
- employ more **security services personnel**
- create jobs through the **National Cybersecurity Workforce Development Programme**
- recruit more **special needs teachers**
- **set quotas for recruitment of PWDs for public sector recruitment**
- **employ more lawyers** for legal aid (at least 2 for each District)
- **create other jobs** through Tourism, Creative Arts and Sports; “Jobs Abroad” Programme; “Youth in Seafaring” Programme; Aviation & Logistics; Green Energy Industries, including EVs, and
- **support businesses to drive and accelerate job creation by:**
  - a. **cutting 3% of GDP from government expenditure (~GH¢30 billion), and redirecting it towards private sector** provision of public infrastructure and services

- b. **using our tried and tested gold purchase programme** to stabilise the currency, to give businesses and industries predictability in planning, and ensure stability in input prices
- c. **introducing a flat rate tax system in Ghana, like Estonia.** This will simplify the tax administration by giving taxpayers visibility into their tax obligations and therefore easier to file and pay their taxes
- d. complementing the Flat Tax regime by **using a Tax Amnesty Programme to enable industries finance their expansion, recruit more employees, and energise economic activity**
- e. **implementing a significant shift in electricity tariffs structure** to a regime in which commercial rates are either equal to, or lower than residential rates, never higher, to power industries and businesses
- f. **establishing an SME Bank** to meet the special financing needs of small and medium businesses, which employ over 80% of Ghanaians
- g. **establishing a Fintech Fund with seed capital of US\$100 Million (~GH¢1.6 billion)** to attract additional private sector funding to support Ghanaian start-ups developing payments and financial services solutions
- h. **reforming the licensing regime** for the small-scale mining sector and **establishing a Minerals Development Bank** to finance viable local mineral projects, small scale miners, as well as Ghanaian mining and mining services firms
- i. **using the Credit Scoring System to enable the average Ghanaian access basic needs through cheaper credit: “Buy now, pay small, small”.** This will increase domestic demand, increase production and create jobs
- j. **using the Tax Amnesty Programme for Individuals to increase disposable income** to stimulate and boost demand for goods and services, for businesses to produce more, expand and employ more
- k. **using Government's purchasing power to stimulate industrial expansion** and business growth, which will help

create jobs, by rolling out a “**Buy Ghana First**” policy under which all goods and services procured by the public sector will first be filled by goods and services produced locally, and

- I. **completing the digitalisation of land titling and registration** to enable owners of landed properties to use their properties as collateral to raise capital for business growth and expansion

### 3. IMPLEMENT WIDE-RANGING TAX REFORMS

- **offer a one-time tax amnesty** to all Ghanaians and corporate entities through:
  - a. **tax amnesty from the payment of taxes** from the previous years
  - b. **the waiving of interest and penalties** for failures to file taxes in previous years

**This will enable everyone start their tax journey afresh.** It will “wipe the slate clean” for all taxpayers in Ghana

- **introduce a flat rate tax system in Ghana, like Estonia.** This will simplify the tax administration by giving taxpayers visibility into their tax obligations and therefore easier to file and pay their taxes
- **reform the Value Added Tax regime** by merging all levies into a single line-item levy, and treat the merged levy as part of input and output VAT, to eliminate the cascading effect in the current regime
- **reduce Withholding Tax (WHT) for small-scale gold exports to 1% to discourage smuggling**
- **abolish the Betting Tax**
- **incentivise Ghanaian start-ups in selected,** strategic sectors with Investment Tax Credits (ITC) for the first three (3) years of their operations

- **digitise all aspects of tax administration** to reduce leakages, improve efficiency and ease of filing
- **implement a Flat Rate for all importers**, bringing predictability and stability on prices of imported goods
- **harmonise port charges to align** with charges in competing regional ports, particularly Togo. Duties at our ports will be same or lower, and
- **broaden the tax base** by leveraging digitalisation to capture more eligible taxpayers to reduce the pressure on the few

#### 4. **BUILD GHANA INTO A WORLD-CLASS DIGITAL ECONOMY**

We will accelerate Ghana's growth into a world-class digital economy and make Ghana the digital hub of Africa. We will do this through policies, competitive incentives and investments. We will invest in developing local talent and tech start-ups, including:

- **training 1,000,000 young people** in all areas and levels of digital skills
- working with educational institutions and leading Ghanaian and global tech firms to **establish a National Robotics, Engineering, and AI Lab** for research and training of young Ghanaians locally
- **providing venture funding and grant support for commercially viable tech projects by Ghanaian start-ups** to drive innovation, foster high-tech entrepreneurship, create jobs, and support growth of Ghanaian high-tech businesses
- **providing "live lab" opportunities to Ghanaian tech start-ups under a Matchmaking Programme**, by purposely connecting them to matured/large tech firms working on government tech projects, to help start-ups test their ideas in real-world environments, and to accelerate their product development cycle
- **working with the Bank of Ghana** to significantly expand our Regulatory Sandbox to admit more Ghanaian as well as regional

Fintechs. This will position Ghana as a Multi-Regulatory/Multi-Jurisdictional Sandbox for financial and payments interoperability

- **establishing a Fintech Fund with seed capital of US\$100 Million** to attract additional private sector funding to support Ghanaian start-ups developing payments and financial services solutions, specially focused on Region-wide, exportable solutions
- **continue leading in the African Union policy campaign to achieve cross-border mobile money interoperability to enhance significantly the buying and selling of goods and services across Africa.** This will instantly expose Ghanaian enterprises and young entrepreneurs to a market of 1.4 billion people
- **implementing a Digital Residency (e-Residency)** for businesses and individuals in tech firms, to register and operate from within Ghana
- **implementing a 5-Year Digital Nomad Visa and Work Permit** to attract global tech talents to domicile and work from Ghana
- **appointing a Digital Ambassador** whose role will be to develop new external markets for Ghanaian digital talent and products, and facilitate the export of same
- **increasing internet penetration to over 90%** as pertains in advanced economies. Internet Penetration has been increased from 32% in 2016 to 70% in 2024
- **implementing comprehensive data interoperability** across government platforms to enhance transparency and streamline services
- **creating a marketplace to streamline public sector procurement**
- **abolishing E-Levy**
- **ensuring holders of GhanaCard** are not required to fill separate forms to apply for passports
- **working with industry players to make more spectrum available to operators** at affordable prices including 5G, and

- **eliminating import duties on mobile phones** until manufacturing capacity is established in Ghana

## 5. REDUCE THE COST OF LIVING

- **we will ensure food security by stabilising the prices of foods produced locally**, through financing and guarantees from Development Bank Ghana (DBG) and the Ghana Incentive-Based Risk-Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (GIRSAL). This will mainly involve:
  - a. **upscaling the production** of staple foods, and
  - b. **investing in the preservation** of staple foods, meat, poultry and fish products
- **reduce the cost of public transportation by:**
  - a. **promoting and supporting Electric Vehicles (EV)** for public transportation
  - b. **expanding the Gold-For-Oil Programme (G4O)** to continue stabilising the price of fuel
  - c. stabilising the prices of spare parts through the “**Flat Rate for all importers**” policy which will bring predictability and stability on prices of imported goods, and
  - d. making drivers’ licenses valid for 10 years, renewable every 5 years
- **ensure a variety of accommodation types** to meet different pockets and needs as follows:
  - a. **Social Housing:** including homeless shelters (overnight stay for the vulnerable) and an expanded Rental Assistance Scheme for low-income workers
  - b. **Affordable Housing:** including District Housing projects through incentives to the private real estate industry, as well as expanded services of State Housing Company (SHC), TDC, and National Homeownership Fund (NHF), and
  - c. **Improving Housing Finance:** through an expansion of the mortgage market, as well as rent-to-own schemes

We will use a variety of ways to deliver access to the various types of accommodation. For example, for Social Housing, we will provide public lands within our main cities to private developers, and make it mandatory for them to “set aside” between 20% to 30% for low-income social housing units with subsidised rents

- **significantly improving the availability and affordability of power** by bringing on stream 2,000 MW of solar power, and incentivising users by buying excess power they generate from solar systems and paying with “free electricity” from the national grid when they need power (through net metering), and
- **continue to make accessing services easier.** Once you have a GhanaCard, all public and private organisations will not be required to collect your basic data

## 6. EXPAND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

- **partner the private sector** to finance, build, and rent or lease-to-own to government, public infrastructure, including school, housing, water, and roads, as well as equipment
- **revive and resource, including with modern equipment and state-of-the-art workshops, the Public Works Department (PWD),** to be the primary government agency responsible for maintenance of public infrastructure across the country
- **fully-implement and expand the District Road Improvement Programme (DRIP),** under which local governments have been supplied with equipment, to help maintain roads in their Districts
- **through partnerships with private sector investors, develop the railway network across the country based on the Master Plan, with strategic focus on the Western and Eastern Lines** in the medium term. The two lines, which are of high economic importance, will be prioritised for development and completion
- **facilitate the establishment, by the private sector, of a Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility at the Tamale Airport,** to develop it into an aviation cargo, horticultural cargo, and logistics hub

- **commence the development of the Cape Coast Airport**, for which funding has been secured under the Korean \$2 billion facility
- **in collaboration with the private sector, build an airport in the Upper East Region, and**
- **achieve universal access to electricity**

## 7. PROVIDE BETTER HEALTHCARE FOR ALL

- **complete all Agenda 111 hospitals.** This ensures every District gets a District Hospital
- **recruit more doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals,** with improved conditions of service
- **bring healthcare services to your doorstep by:**
  - a. **completing the digitisation of public healthcare institutions** under the E-health project
  - b. **scaling up telehealth services**
  - c. **establishing two additional sites, in addition to the existing 6,** at Funsu and Kintampo, to enhance drone delivery services and to ensure total nationwide coverage, and
  - d. **ensuring the interoperability of the National Electronic Pharmacy Platform (NEPP)** with public and private healthcare facilities
- **offer incentives for healthcare workers** to buy one vehicle each with engine capacity of up to 1,800cc, and
- **ensure compliance with the existing deprived area incentive package** for health workers

## 8. IMPLEMENT AFFIRMATIVE ACTION FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

- **implement in full the Affirmative Action Act** we recently enacted
- **establish a Women’s Trade Empowerment Fund (WoTEF)** to support women-owned businesses
- **ensure gender parity** in award of government scholarships
- **further improve the maternal health care programme**
- **pursue a “Women in Diplomacy” programme** for Ghanaian women to take more leadership roles in international organisations, and
- **promote and protect women’s rights in the workplace** by:
  - a. ensuring that existing sexual harassment laws are strictly enforced
  - b. enabling mothers to seamlessly re-enter the workforce by prioritising, in partnership with the private sector, the establishment of daycare centres near workplaces, including marketplaces, and
  - c. enforcing existing regulations on maternity leave governance

## 9. EXPAND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

- **increase the stock of student accommodation in our public universities and other public tertiary institutions** to address the housing deficit on campuses, and make them affordable
- **introduce a Free Tertiary Education Scholarship for PWDs**, to remove financial barriers to pursuing educational goals
- **on scholarships:**
  - a. **integrate scholarship databases across all the public sector institutions managing such schemes**, to ensure full visibility

- b. **expand eligibility for the Student Loan Scheme to include all post-secondary students**, including certificate and diploma programmes, and
- c. **prioritise and direct** a significant proportion of national scholarship schemes towards training and skills development in STEM
- **implement in full the Centralised Applications Processing Service (CAPS) for tertiary institutions**: “You apply once, and pay once”
- **establish an Open University**
- those who, after completion of their tertiary education, have secured jobs would be **exempted from national service**
- **protect and enhance the free SHS/TVET, which is truly transforming lives and changing life outcomes** for millions:
  - a. since we started free SHS/TVET, **enrolment has increased by 83%**. We are building the foundation for a well-educated, prosperous society
  - b. **with free SHS/TVET, we have achieved gender parity**. More girls are getting secondary education, and the impact will be positive for society
  - c. **we will recruit more teachers at all levels**, with improved conditions of service
  - d. **we will continue to develop additional infrastructure** for our educational institutions to meet the increased numbers, and
  - e. **offer incentives for teachers** to buy one vehicle each with engine capacity of up to 1,800 cubic centimetres (cc)

## 10. PROVIDE GOOD GOVERNANCE

- **cap the number of ministers at 50**
- **reinitiate the process of getting MMDCEs elected** through universal adult suffrage, to deepen decentralisation and effective local governance
- **delink the creation of Districts from Constituencies** to end the automatic increases in the size of Parliament
- **institute an Electoral Area Share of the Common Fund (EASCF) for Assembly Members** to facilitate development at the Electoral Area level
- engage Parliament and other stakeholders, including Political parties, to **review the 1992 constitution to achieve effective national development**
- **provide values-based leadership**, predicated on values such as selflessness, excellence, ethics, justice, integrity, transparency, diligence, and accountability
- **in pursuit of Values-Based Leadership and responsible Citizenship**, formalise the relationship between the State, Chiefs, FBOs, and CSOs, and redefine and elevate their place and role in the national governance structure
- **review Section 63 of the Chieftaincy Act** to empower Chiefs to strengthen local governance
- **pay living allowances** to Paramount Chiefs, Divisional Chiefs, and Queen mothers
- **to encourage the registration of lands, all stool lands will be registered without initial fee payment.** Payment will only be due when the land is sold, and
- **protect Ghanaian cultural and family values**

## 11. CARE FOR THE ELDERLY

- **pass an Ageing Act** for the care and protection of the elderly
- **promote geriatric care training programmes** to address the growing need for elder care
- **implement policies on the establishment of homecare, nursing homes and rehabilitation services, including assisted living and old-age community living, and**
- **create elder-specific social assistance schemes** to cover those not presently covered under existing programmes such as LEAP

## 12. PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

- **enhance the protection of our forests and biodiversity hotspots**
- **restore our forests through reforestation programmes by:**
  - a. targeting 30,000ha of degraded areas for reforestation and plantation development annually
  - b. establishing 1,000ha of bamboo and rattan plantations annually for watershed protection and plantation development, and
  - c. providing tree seedlings and plantain suckers in a minimum of 1000 communities to enhance the national reforestation and plantation development programme
- **usher in a Golden Age for Ghanaian-Owned Small-Scale Mining for Wealth and Jobs, and promote responsible and sustainable small-scale mining, including addressing illegal small-scale mining by:**
  - a. making available proven reserves data to small-scale miners to help deal with the associated problem of trial- and-error digging for gold
  - b. simplifying the small-scale mining licensing regime

- c. scaling-up the use of the mercury-free gold Catcher machine technology, which is less damaging to our environment, and
- d. ensuring strict adherence to our mining laws and regulations to prevent illegal and improper mining practices, and
- **protect and preserve our water resources by:**
  - e. vigorously protecting both surface and underground sources by enforcing the provisions of the Water Use Regulations
  - f. reviewing and strengthening the Water Buffer Zone Policy for implementation
  - g. protecting transborder water sources, notably the Volta River, and
  - h. effectively managing all major water Basins in Ghana

### 13. BOOST SPORTS, CREATIVE ARTS AND TOURISM

- **use tax incentives, including a flat tax**, to incentivise private sector investments in sports, tourism, and creative arts facilities
- **implement an e-visa policy for all international visitors to Ghana**, to make visa acquisition fast and convenient for visitors
- **roll out a visa-free policy for all nationals of African and Caribbean countries** visiting Ghana
- **establish, in partnership with the private sector, a streaming and digital management platform for Ghanaian content developers** in the creative arts
- **establish a Travel Protocol Service (TPS) for the creatives community**, to enable artistes, performers, and other creatives, honour international performances and shows
- **establish a Sports Development Fund** to develop sports infrastructure, talent, and grassroots sports programmes, including the revival of Colts football and leagues across the country

- **upgrade the surfaces of our football pitches to meet the highest international Standards** (Kumasi, Accra, Cape Coast, Legon, Tamale & Essipong)
- **continue the construction of AstroTurfs for every constituency to boost the development of our talents including juvenile football.** We have increased from 3 AstroTurfs as at 2016 to 150 in 2024
- **start an “Operation Olympics Glory” programme** by dedicating resources towards the preparation and readiness of athletes to the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles, USA, including, where necessary, targeting specific sports for medals
- **support the revival of the Premier League, and Clubs, to improve commercial viability, and to create related jobs by:**
  - a. **directing policy through the National Lotteries Authority and the Gaming Commission to establish and fund a Sports Employment Module** to assist Premier League clubs fund operational expenses, including player remuneration, and
  - b. **provide a bus each** to Premier League Clubs
- **build six (6) 5,000-seater capacity, standard stadiums** for the new regions, and
- **promote school sports by establishing a Ghana School Sports Secretariat to create more opportunities for young people in sports,** and collaborate with international sports bodies like the NBA and NFL to make Ghana a hub for emerging sports in Africa

## 14. PROTECTING OUR BORDERS, KEEPING NEIGHBOURHOODS SAFE

We will not compromise on our efforts to ensure Ghanaians feel safe and are free to go about their daily lives. We will therefore continue to keep our borders protected and our communities and neighbourhoods safe. We will:

- **complete the 15 Forward Operating Bases (FOB) at our border frontiers of Ghana.** This is to allow the military to swiftly respond to any external hostilities and threats posed by terrorists in the Region
- **continue equipping Ghana's security services** to build their capability in protecting the nation
- **deepen the cooperation with our neighbouring states,** and the international community, in the fight against violent extremism, and
- **recruit and deploy 20,000 more security personnel to enhance police visibility** and strengthen the human resource of other security services; roll out 50,000 more anti-crime cameras (CCTV Cameras), body cameras for the police, and other logistics



# PART I:

## BUSINESS GROWTH, JOBS AND PROSPERITY

NEW PATRIOTIC PARTY



DEVELOPMENT IN FREEDOM





### 3. ENSURING A RESILIENT, BUSINESS-FRIENDLY ECONOMY FOR GROWTH AND JOBS

**Under President Akufo-Addo's leadership, we expanded the economy by US\$20 billion between 2016 and 2023. The economy is rebounding from the recent challenges, with Q1 2024 GDP growth at 4.7% being the highest since 2022.**

**We will continue along the path of ensuring stability in the short to medium term. But that is not enough.**

**We want to build a resilient economy for the long term. One that will ensure predictability for businesses and investors so they can thrive and grow; enable households plan their budgets; support new growth paths, such as a digital economy; and one that will absorb external shocks without going into a tailspin, while protecting the disadvantaged and vulnerable, including the aged, people with disabilities, women and children, and marginalised communities.**

In view of this, an NPP administration under a Bawumia presidency, will bring fresh impetus and urgency to the current fiscal consolidation efforts to achieve faster economic recovery, promote debt sustainability, and redirect significant resources to the private sector to support job creation.

To achieve these objectives, we will:

- **ensure long-term economic resilience** through prudent fiscal policies and tighter expenditure controls; leveraging green financing, whenever available, for sustainable development; strengthening the fiscal capacity of local governments to drive growth at the local level; and exercising better oversight over fiscal policy and budget execution, and
- **make better use of public policy and resources to finance business growth and jobs** by ensuring exchange rate stability; prioritising the private sector in the financing and development of public infrastructure; implementing a new, business and citizen-friendly tax regime; establishing an efficient credit scoring system, and protecting the banking system to promote savings and investments.

## 3.1. ENSURING LONG-TERM ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

### 3.1.1. Fiscal Policy and Expenditure Control

Ghana's fiscal performance has often been characterised by high deficits, resulting mainly from unbudgeted expenditures and low revenue performance. To reverse this requires a significant overhaul of fiscal policy, especially relating to expenditure control. Among the measures a Bawumia presidency will adopt are:

- **cutting 3% of GDP from government expenditure (~GH¢30 Billion), and redirecting it towards private sector provision of public infrastructure and services**
- **fully rolling-out the Ghana Integrated Financial Management Information System (GIFMIS), to ensure all central government expenditures are fully integrated into the budget planning and accounting systems. Public procurement processes will be fully integrated into GIFMIS, and only projects with approved budgets and quarterly allotments will obtain procurement approvals to award contracts**
- **provision of a Fiscal rule that budgeted expenditure in any year does not exceed 105% of the previous year's tax revenue in real terms, by amending the Fiscal Responsibility Act. The objective of this policy is to significantly reduce government expenditure by balancing it annually with tax revenues of the year immediately preceding the budget year. Doing this will force government to develop better and more innovative revenue generation ideas to fund its programmes year on year**
- **providing legal backing to the existing Fiscal Advisory Council to operate independently**
- **including a District budget column in the national budget to address the needs of various districts**
- **ensuring a public debt management strategy that focuses on a sustainable level and rate of debt growth, that can be serviced at all times, including during periods of external shocks**

- **reforming and rationalising statutory funds** by re-evaluating all such existing funds for efficiency, value for money and relevance
- **reforming the fiscal regime in the extractive sector to:**
  - make Ghana a high-priority exploration destination by deferring Value-Added Tax (VAT) on exploration and related activities until there is a successful find
  - bring clarity in the administration of total revenue from the extractive sector, including taxation, to ensure certainty for all stakeholders, and
  - build technical capacity in the assessment, collection, and auditing of resource revenues
- **reviewing the State Interests and Governance Authority (SIGA)'s governing Act to significantly restructure SOEs as vehicles for job creation and revenue for the state**, including the implementation of turnaround plans, and/or listing on the Ghana Stock Exchange.

### **3.1.2. Establish an Office of Management & Budget (OMB)**

The next NPP administration proposes to establish an Office of Management and Budget (OMB), with oversight for fiscal policy, budget preparation, and budget execution, enabling the Ministry of Finance to focus on managing the financial resources of the state more effectively as its Treasury/Exchequer.

For decades, while the nomenclature has changed at various times, from Ministry of Finance through Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning and back, the broad functions of the Ministry have not evolved to better align its core mandate as the nation's treasury with the use of the budgeting process to achieve the aspirations of Ghanaians.

The major cause of this misalignment is the workload that successive Ministries of Finance have assumed over the years, and conflict between having to act as both the arbiter between government policy prioritisation and being the entity in charge of the public purse.

The establishment of the OMB will lead to improved delivery of government policy priorities by ensuring alignment with the budgeting process and its execution.

### 3.1.3. Exchange Rate Stability for Business Planning and Price Stability

An unstable currency is a disincentive to investment and business planning, and an accelerant for price instability for goods and services, including manufacturing inputs, fuels, pharmaceutical products, and general consumer goods.

Despite recent challenges, we managed to bring down the 249% depreciation of the Cedi between 2008 to 2016 to 43% between 2016 and 2021. The exchange rate continues to stabilise and is at 18.6% as of June 2024, compared to 22% same period last year.

The successful piloting of Bank of Ghana's Gold Purchase Programme, as well as the Gold for Oil Programme, has demonstrated a viable proof of concept in leveraging our mineral resources as a major strategy in ensuring exchange rate stability.

Expanding these policies will bring relief to businesses, ensuring predictability in planning, as well as stable prices of goods for industrial use and domestic consumption.

In addition to the overall inflation-targeting monetary policy by the Bank of Ghana therefore, a Bawumia presidency, to ensure long-term stability of the currency, will:

- **require all sustainably mined small-scale gold to be sold to BoG, Precious Minerals Mining Company (PMMC), or the Minerals Income Investment Fund (MIIF) continue to work with the Bank to fully entrench and create a sustainable framework for its Gold Purchase Programme**, designed to increase our reserves and ensure a stable currency. To further this objective, we will allocate specific, proven gold reserve concessions to the Bank to enhance the Programme, and all forex demand from the Bank can be channelled through the Programme to provide 100% gold coverage for domestic forex demand to entrench and maintain exchange rate stability, and

- **support the Bank of Ghana** to accelerate the pace of enforcement of existing foreign currency rules, and explore additional regulatory measures to close emerging loopholes.

#### **3.1.4. Strengthen the Fiscal Capacity of Local Governments**

The stability and resilience of the national economy requires a vibrant and growing economy at the local level. However, many of our local governments have not been able to achieve their full development potential partly due to weak financial capacity and administration. A new NPP administration will make local government financing a priority.

Under a Bawumia presidency, the NPP administration will implement policies aimed at strengthening the fiscal capacity of Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies (MMDAs), to deepen and drive local economic development.

Since 2007, there have been several attempts to develop and pass a Municipal Finance Bill. To deepen fiscal decentralisation in line with the 1992 Constitution, the laws governing mobilisation of additional resources from the capital markets to finance local, level economically viable projects will be reviewed.

This will free other funds such as the District Assemblies Common Fund (DACF) and District Development Facility (DDF), to finance social projects.

We commit to:

- **passing the current Local Governance Finance Bill into law** to enable qualifying MMDAs attract funding from the capital markets
- **ensuring sustainable funding of MMDAs by:**
  - ensuring regular transfers of at least the minimum constitutional requirement of not less than 5% of total national revenue to the MMDAs
  - strengthening accountability processes in the use and management of funds available to local governments

by tightening control structures, including adequately resourcing the Audit Committees created under the Public Financial Management Act, to ensure effective use of public funds and reduce misapplication and irregularities, and

- improving accountability by introducing a Local Public Accounts Committee (LPAC) system which allows the Audit Committees of the various MMDAs and RCCs established under the PFM Act 2016(Act 921) to sit in public and hold local duty bearers accountable, and
- **strengthen the Property Tax regime** to encourage compliance, and for simplicity of assessment and collection of property taxes.

### 3.1.5. Leverage Green Financing for Sustainable Development

Climate change provides unique opportunities for countries to transition to low carbon and greener economies. Ghana is already an active participant in global climate response efforts, and this strategically positions us to take full advantage of the ever-growing climate finance opportunities.

The establishment of the Climate Finance Division at the Ministry of Finance under our government, is a strategic step to mobilise and coordinate human and technical resources across all sectors to pursue every opportunity for harnessing financial inflows to support our green growth agenda.

A Bawumia presidency, under the framework of Ghana's Climate Prosperity Plan (G-CPP), will:

- **explore innovative climate financing and carbon trading to finance investments** in agriculture and fisheries, as well as in climate adaptation infrastructure in affected communities, including in mining communities
- **use our annual allocation of the Readiness Fund from the Green Climate Fund** to build institutional capacity of all relevant stakeholders
- **build upon the three negotiated bilateral agreements with Switzerland, Sweden and Singapore**, and other carbon credit

opportunities within the climate finance space, to speed up our green transition and economic growth efforts

- **leverage on the advocacy and scale of implementing innovative financing models being explored by Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF)**, which is hosted by Ghana, and the new mission of the World Bank, to particularly advance debt-for-climate swaps options
- **work towards being a leader in technical capacity and implementation, to position Ghana as a hub for innovative climate financing** models within Africa and the CVF states, and
- **strengthen the private sector to participate in the development of climate resilient projects that qualify for funding** from the growing sources, including the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), the Green Climate Fund, and the Adaptation Fund

## 3.2. LEVERAGE PUBLIC POLICY TO SUPPORT BUSINESS GROWTH AND JOBS

In addition to ensuring long-term macroeconomic stability, a Bawumia presidency will implement far-reaching, business-friendly policy initiatives to support the growth of Ghanaian businesses, which will help create millions of jobs, especially for the youth.

### 3.2.1. Prioritise the Private Sector in the Provision of Public Infrastructure and Services to Boost Business Revenue and Jobs

Over the past eight years, our focus as a government has been on putting in place the structures of a thriving social safety net system. In our next term in office, we will turn our attention to reducing the fiscal burden on government and supporting Ghanaian businesses to create more well-paying, sustainable jobs. Our strategy, under a Bawumia presidency, is to draft, empower and incentivise the private sector to finance, build, and rent or lease-to-own to government the vast majority of public infrastructure, from schools to homes, and from roads to equipment and vehicles.

By leveraging the purchasing power of government and channelling it towards the private sector, Ghanaian businesses will have a stable and increased pipeline of projects and revenue, on the basis of which they will create jobs and services, and, with structured, long-term financing and payments, will enable government reduce the pressure that comes with front-loaded, short-term expenditure annually. Overall, it is also expected to lead to efficiency gains by cutting waste and ensuring value for money in procurement.

To facilitate and incentivise the private sector to achieve these objectives, we will:

- **cut Government expenditure by at least 3% of GDP (~GH¢30 Billion)** and in its place, invite the private sector to execute the corresponding projects through BOT, leasing and other arrangements
- **review the Public Private Partnership Act, 2020 (Act 1039)** to make it more investment-friendly, easier to administer, and faster to evaluate projects for implementation to achieve the purpose for which it was enacted, and, also review and further amend the **Public Procurement (Amendment) Act, 2016 (Act 914)**, to provide an enhanced framework for facilitating contracts under this strategy
- **realign the capped Ghana Education Trust Fund (GETFund), to increase its available** resource pool, which will be channelled through appropriate long-term financing vehicles to the private sector to finance, particularly, the construction of educational infrastructure
- **work with the Ghana Infrastructure Investment Fund (GIIF) and the Development Bank Ghana (DBG)**, together with Pension Funds, to invest and attract other capital, domestic and international, to finance the development of major, nationally significant infrastructure projects
- **leverage the \$2 billion Framework Arrangement with South Korea's** Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) to finance strategic infrastructure in agriculture, health, education, aviation, energy, roads and transport, as well as in IT, and

- **provide a clear roadmap for clearing public outstanding contractor payments, and ensuring prompt payments**, which is expected to lead to the lowering of interest rates.

### **3.2.2. Implement a New, Business & Citizen-Friendly Tax Regime**

**We recognise also that despite the best efforts of governments past & present, over time, our tax administration system has become complex and punitive, leading to low compliance, over-concentration on few, overburdened taxpayers, and an unhappy business community.**

A stable and resilient economy needs to achieve its revenue goals to finance development and stimulate desired growth, but to do so, it requires a clear, easy-to-administer, fair, equitable, and predictable tax regime for individuals, businesses, and industries. A Bawumia presidency will undertake far-reaching reforms to address these shortcomings by introducing a world-class, citizen and business-friendly tax administration system that will free up billions of cedis for reinvestment by the private sector to grow and create jobs. This will be achieved from year 1, among other measures, through the following initiatives:

- **introduce a flat rate tax system in Ghana, similar to that of Estonia.** This will simplify the tax administration by giving taxpayers visibility into their tax obligations and thereby making it easier to file and pay their taxes. This will increase the disposable income of our people
- **A Tax Amnesty Programme**, to offer a one-time tax amnesty in 2025 to all Ghanaians and corporate entities through:
  - **tax amnesty from the payment of taxes** from the previous years, and
  - **the waiving of interest and penalties for failures to file taxes in previous years**

The cancelled taxes, penalties, and interests will provide a pool of investable funds for business expansion by the **private sector while enabling everyone to start their tax journey afresh.** It will “wipe the slate clean” for all taxpayers in Ghana

- **reform the Value Added Tax regime by:**
  - merging all levies into a single line-item levy and treat the merged levy as part of input and output VAT, to eliminate the cascading effect in the current regime, and
  - provide sunset clauses for all VAT exemptions to avoid having them as a permanent feature in the tax system
- **further review the excise tax regime** to achieve simplicity in administration and enforcement, to discourage tax evasion and smuggling, and to use a mix of ad valorem and specific taxes to provide for product differentiation and to protect revenue
- **review tax legislation** to consolidate all amendments to date for easy reference, and align them with global good practices and facilitate speedy resolution of disputes
- **incentivise Ghanaian start-ups in selected, strategic sectors with Investment Tax Credits (ITC)** for the first three (3) years of their operations
- **digitise all aspects of tax administration to improve efficiency and ease of filing, including:**
  - the filing of very simple tax returns electronically
  - automated/faceless tax assessment to provide transparency and accountability
  - extending e-invoicing to all businesses
  - implementing a faceless/automated Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA) audits regime, and, in addition, ensuring no entity is audited more than once in five years unless anomalies are detected which the taxpayer fails to correct after being given opportunity to do so
- **implement a Flat Rate for all importers, ensuring duties, fees and charges at the ports are paid in cedis and at a set flat rate**, bringing predictability and stability on prices of imported inputs and goods
- **harmonise port charges** to align with charges in competing regional ports, particularly Togo. Duties at our ports will be same or lower, and

- **broaden the tax base** by leveraging digitalisation to formalise the large and “hard to reach” informal sector to bring them into tax compliance

### **3.2.3. Establish an Efficient Credit System to Boost Demand, Growth and Jobs**

Small businesses are at the heart of economic growth in most countries, paying taxes for development, and helping create jobs and incomes for millions of people. Unfortunately, **difficulty in providing landed property as collateral, and a low-depth credit delivery system**, continues to drive risk premiums on loans (reflected as high interest rates), preventing many small businesses in Ghana from raising financing for growth.

The complexities and rigidities in the titling process has led to lengthy land litigation, leaving billions of investable wealth as “dead capital”. In addition, the shallow depth of our credit system, mainly due to a lack of a well-functioning credit scoring system, disincentivises household consumption of goods and services, constraining demand, which should be driving business growth and expansion.

We have, as a government, made significant progress in addressing these twin issues, including the significant role GhanaCard is playing in identifying borrowers and reducing delinquency.

To unlock capital for investments, and boost demand for growth and jobs, a Bawumia presidency will accelerate these efforts by:

- **on land titling:**
  - enforcing the current turnaround time in registration of landed property
  - bringing land administration closer to people by digitising land records; decentralising land title registration; establishing more client service centres; and strengthening the availability, reliability, and security of online land registration services to users
  - working with the Judiciary to streamline the adjudication of land cases, and

- resourcing customary land secretariats to make them more efficient in the delivery of basic land administration services and minimise land related disputes at the local level, and
- **on a credit scoring system:**
  - facilitating the implementation of a fully functional credit bureau system that provides comprehensive, individualised credit scores for borrowers based on a comprehensive dataset that will help credit delivery firms properly differentiate and price risks.

#### **3.2.4. Protect Banking System to Boost Savings for Investment Lending and Jobs**

For the financial services sector to continue to lend to, and support the growth of the private sector, it must be able to mobilise significant savings.

To boost savings, a Bawumia presidency will **strengthen the operations of the Ghana Deposit Protection Corporation by:**

- raising the amount insured per depositor/deposit to provide greater protection for depositors, and
- ensuring adequate funding so the scheme has sufficient funds and reserves to cover potential losses





## 4. JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE YOUTH

With over 60% of Ghana's population being under the age of 35, prioritising strategies that will leverage their energies, skills, creativity, and intellect remains a core strategy of the NPP. This is why our entire job creation strategies have been directed at creating youth-focused jobs, and empowering the youth with the knowledge, resources, and skills they need to run their own small businesses or stay at the top of the labour market.

Over the past eight years, under the Akufo-Addo led administration, notwithstanding the unexpected global economic crisis, we have created over 2.3 million jobs, and implemented programmes and policies that support our youth and small businesses, including:

- having disbursed a total of GH¢1.44 billion to support 444,367 youth-owned, small businesses through Ghana Enterprise Authority (GEA)
- over 250,000 young entrepreneurs have been given entrepreneurial training, and 15,000 small businesses funded through the National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (NEIP)
- a total of GH¢2.98 billion disbursed to support beneficiaries of several programmes through the Youth Employment Agency (YEA), and
- raising of US\$40 million in grant funding for small businesses, US\$9.5 million of which has already been disbursed through the Ghana Skills Development Fund (GSDF)

### **But that is not enough. We have to do more.**

Our number one priority is to create a business-friendly environment with the right policies to stimulate growth, increase production and create jobs.

As a forward-looking government under a leader who is at the forefront of digitalisation, we will provide strong and focused leadership, and reposition our workforce to take advantage of the jobs and opportunities that the Fourth Industrial Revolution presents.

Digital and related emerging technologies, especially AI, are transforming the nature of work and the workplace. What work is available, workstreams, and the skills required, have, or are rapidly changing. Combined with digital data, these technologies are disrupting entire industries. UNCTAD rightly

observes that “the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the process of digital transformation and added urgency for Governments to respond.”

**This represents a significant potential to accelerate our efforts to create millions of new jobs for our youth.**

Under a Bawumia presidency, our commitment is to;

- **primarily incentivise the creation of jobs by the private sector**, complemented by public sector jobs in, for example, health, education, and security services. This includes:
  - **train 1,000,000 youth** in digital skills
  - **create jobs through private-sector** construction and infrastructure development, industrialisation, and Agribusiness
  - create jobs through the **Tax Amnesty Programme**
  - **create jobs for artisans** (carpenters, masons, welders etc) and built environment professionals, to maintain public infrastructure, **through a revived and resourced PWD**
  - create SME jobs with the **introduction of The SME Bank**
  - create jobs through the **minerals industry, and its value chain** (aluminium, gold, lithium, manganese, salt etc)
  - employ more **security services personnel**
  - create jobs through the **National Cybersecurity Workforce Development Programme**
  - recruit more **special needs teachers**
  - **set quotas for recruitment of PWDs for public sector recruitment**
  - **employ more lawyers** for legal aid (at least 2 for each District), and
  - **create other jobs** through Tourism, Creative Arts and Sports; “Jobs Abroad” Programme; “Youth in Seafaring” Programme; Aviation & Logistics; Green Energy Industries, including EVs, and
- **create the right investment environment for high- tech industries to thrive and invest in building a workforce with the skills and knowledge for the Fourth Industrial Revolution.** This includes:

- Using government policy to catalyse the creation of a digital economy hub in Ghana
- promoting design thinking and digital manufacturing
- investing in technology and innovation skills development, and
- investing in technical and vocational (TVET) skills development
- **bring a renewed focus on and investment in “emerging industries” to create new job opportunities, especially in:**
  - Green Energy Industries
  - Aviation Services
  - Professional Services
  - Skilled Labour Exports, and
  - Defence-Related Industries
- **transform traditional sectors using new technologies** to create new jobs, including:
  - Agribusinesses
  - Tourism, Creative Arts, Heritage, and Sports, and
  - Public Infrastructure Works and Maintenance
- **provide relevant support to the job-creation ecosystem**, including in research and development (R&D) and **foster better relations with Labour**
- **establish a Fintech Fund with seed capital of US\$100 Million (~GH¢1.6billion)** to attract additional private sector funding to support Ghanaian start-ups developing payments and financial services solutions, and promoting financial inclusion, specially focused on Region-wide, exportable solutions
- **establish and fully resource an SME Bank**, to address the special financing needs of small and medium businesses that are not being addressed by traditional banks. In addition to its own funding for on-lending, the SME Bank will become a participating partner in the GH¢8.2 billion Growth and Opportunity Programme, and
- **establish a Women’s Trade Empowerment Fund (WoTEF)** to support women-owned businesses

## 4.1. CREATING HIGH-TECH, FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION JOBS

**Our commitment is to create at least one million high-tech, digital jobs over the next four years.**

Ghana's nascent digital economy is at the cusp of transformative growth, shored up by reliable data connectivity and an expanding digital infrastructure. Since 2017, the Akufo-Addo-led administration has made significant investments in foundational digital infrastructure, digital platforms, financial services, entrepreneurship, and digital skills.

This includes:

- significant expansion of the natural fiber network, which is 30,844km as at 2023
- at least 11,000 CCTV camera systems to improve public safety and security
- trained 11,113 girls under the Girls in ICT project in basic computer literacy and coding from 2017-2023
- organised 1,271 training programmes to empower individuals through skills development and education from 2021-2023
- rolled out the National Electronic Pharmacy Platform
- passed Act 1038 (Act 2020) establishing the Cybersecurity Authority (CSA)
- rolled out an E-Justice System through which 34,623 cases have been filed as of 2023
- registered over 18 million people with GhanaCards
- implemented a national Digital property addressing system, with 8 million address plates placed on homes
- implemented Mobile Money Interoperability to achieve 100% financial inclusion
- trained over 17,000 beneficiaries under the Digital Transformation Centre Citizens Training programme, and

- growing the digital economy by supporting 1,300 start-ups and creating about 3,623 jobs at the Accra Digital Centre

The investments we have made so far is catalysing our innovative potential, driving economic growth and prosperity for citizens.

A Bawumia presidency will accelerate the creation of high-tech, digital jobs by scaling up investments to improve the ecosystem; train, attract, and retain talent; attract private sector investments; and, invest in critical thinking, Creativity, and Growth Mindset skills to ensure its readiness for the opportunities presented by a globalised economy dominated by technology.

#### 4.1.1. Building a Digital Economy Hub in Ghana

We will invest in developing local talent and tech start-ups by:

- working with educational institutions and leading Ghanaian and global tech firms to **establish a National Robotics, Engineering, and AI Lab** for research and training of young Ghanaians locally
- **providing venture funding and grant support for commercially viable tech projects by Ghanaian start-ups** to drive innovation, foster high-tech entrepreneurship, create jobs, and support growth of Ghanaian high-tech businesses
- **providing “live lab” opportunities to Ghanaian tech start-ups under a Matchmaking Programme**, by purposely connecting them to matured/large tech firms working on government tech projects, to help start-ups test their ideas in real-world environments, and to accelerate their product development cycle
- **working with the Bank of Ghana to significantly expand our Regulatory Sandbox to admit more Ghanaian as well as regional Fintechs**. This will position Ghana as a Multi-Regulatory/Multi-Jurisdictional Sandbox for financial and payments interoperability
- **establishing a Fintech Fund with seed capital of US\$100 Million** to attract additional private sector funding to support Ghanaian start-ups developing payments and financial services

solutions, specially focused on Region-wide, exportable solutions

- **continue leading in the African Union policy campaign to achieve cross-border mobile money interoperability to enhance significantly the buying and selling of goods and services across Africa.** This will instantly expose Ghanaian enterprises and young entrepreneurs to a market of 1.4 billion people
- **implementing a Digital Residency (e-Residency)** for businesses and individuals in tech firms, to register and operate from within Ghana
- **implementing a 5-Year Digital Nomad Visa and Work Permit** to attract global tech talents to domicile and work from Ghana
- **fostering partnerships with global tech companies,** universities, and research institutions to promote knowledge transfer and capacity building
- **appointing a Digital Ambassador** whose role will be to develop new external markets for Ghanaian digital talent and products, and facilitate the export of same
- **creating a new legal framework for a digital economy** by harmonising existing laws as well as and enacting appropriate legislation to facilitate the accelerated growth of a digital economy
- **increasing internet penetration to over 90%** as pertains in advanced economies. Internet Penetration has been increased from 32% in 2016 to 70% in 2024
- **implementing comprehensive data interoperability** across government platforms to enhance transparency, streamline services, and foster an environment of trust
- **creating a marketplace to streamline public sector procurement,** public-private partnerships, and investments to drive growth and prosperity
- **strengthening the security of our digital infrastructure** to safeguard against cyber threats, ensuring the protection of citizen data and national security

- **establishing a network of free zones, incubators, tech parks and accelerators** to provide support, funding, mentorship, and investor access to Ghanaian high-tech entrepreneurs
- **investing in high-speed broadband networks** and data centres
- **abolishing E-Levy**
- **ensuring holders of GhanaCard are not required to fill separate forms to apply for passports**
- working with industry players to make more spectrum available to operators at affordable prices including 5G
- **eliminating import duties on mobile phones** until manufacturing capacity is established in Ghana, and
- removing import duty on batteries used for solar power in the telecommunications industry

#### 4.1.2. Training in Technology and Innovation

Our tech and innovation training will focus on delivering digital competence, skills and expertise in critical, in-demand areas.

Specifically, a Bawumia presidency will:

- **train 1,000,000 young people** in all areas and levels of digital skills
- **prioritise and direct** a significant proportion of national scholarship schemes towards training and skills development in STEM, including in digital technologies
- **introduce bespoke Ready-for-Work Certifications in emerging technologies** into the education curriculum, from secondary to tertiary levels
- **offer grants to, and retrain people transitioning into the tech space** in tailored reskilling and upskilling programmes
- **collaborate with global tech firms**, to deliver “digital readiness” programmes in schools and for working people
- **establish comprehensive training programmes for public-sector IT staff**, including software development, cybersecurity, and cloud computing, to serve as trainers for other staff, and

- **launch a National Cybersecurity Workforce Development Programme** to train 5,000 new cybersecurity professionals.

#### 4.1.3. Training in Technical and Vocational (TVET) Skills

The Fourth Industrial Revolution workplace also covers technical skills in a vast range of fields, including industrial welding, new materials, digital manufacturing, machining, and fabrication. These are skills in high demand domestically and globally. For example, this year, Germany launched the Opportunity Card to attract skilled migrants to work in Germany.

For our economy to grow, we need an army of skilled artisans in several sectors. However, a large number of Ghanaian artisans and craftsmen lack proper certification because they are informally trained. There are several initiatives to encourage such artisans and craftsmen to undertake short formal courses at TVET centres and the Technical Universities, leading to certification.

To further increase the labour pool with high-quality, trained and certified technical skills, a Bawumia presidency will:

- **significantly expand the coverage of the Ghana Skills Development Fund (GSDF)** towards apprenticeship training, entrepreneurship training, and business expansion for job creation
- **facilitate the establishment of a National Open University** in collaboration with the private sector, with a focus on TVET and digital technologies
- **accelerate the development of District TVET Centres** to provide training at the local level
- **improve the governance and role of industry-led sector skill bodies** to design, update and implement the curricular for technical and vocational (TVET) education to make it relevant for global labour market trends
- **promote design thinking and digital manufacturing** by encouraging the use of new technologies in transforming existing local industries, to add value and create more jobs.

#### 4.1.4. Fostering Soft Skills (Creative Thinking and Mindset Skills)

The NPP is committed to **creating an environment that equips our workforce with the soft skills, knowledge, and adaptability they need to succeed in a rapidly changing world.** We believe in empowering with competencies that foster innovation and uphold the values of hard work and personal responsibility. This approach not only benefits individuals but also strengthens our economy and society, reflecting our core ideological values of freedom, responsibility, and enterprise.

A Bawumia presidency will pursue policies aimed at preparing a workforce with a mindset of possibilities by ensuring that **Critical Thinking, Creativity, and Growth Mindset skills**, are effectively implemented.

## 4.2. CREATING JOBS IN “EMERGING INDUSTRIES”

### 4.2.1. Jobs in Green Energy Industries

Climate change provides unique opportunities for countries to transition to low carbon and greener economies. Ghana is already an active participant in global climate response efforts.

The National Green Jobs Strategy, developed by the Akufo-Addo-led administration, is aimed at focusing on four key areas to create jobs: green capacity development, skills development, enterprise development, and enterprise financing. The strategy document estimates that Ghana has the potential to create thousands of jobs in, among others:

- **Renewable Energy:** Solar Home Systems and Micro Hydro, and
- **Waste Management and Recycling:** transforming Organic Waste into Energy and Fertiliser

Over the last few years, we have, in partnership with the private sector, commenced the construction of 16 Integrated Recycling

and Composting Plants (IRECOPS) and Medical Waste Treatment Facilities, of which 7 have been completed and commissioned.

The next NPP administration plans to roll out 2,000 MW of solar power to reduce the cost of electricity. Within the overall framework of the National Green Jobs Strategy, a Bawumia presidency will therefore implement policies to develop a workforce equipped with relevant skills to catalyse the creation of thousands of new green energy jobs by:

- building on the success of the Accelerated Oil and Gas Capacity Development Programme (AOGC) to establish an **Accelerated Renewable Energy Sector Skills Development Programme (AESD)** to equip Ghanaians and businesses with the critical technical skills, certifications, and support required to actively participate across the entire renewable energy value chain, including:
  - Solar PV Installers to install, maintain, and repair solar photovoltaic (PV) systems on residential, commercial, and industrial buildings
  - Electrical Technicians skilled in electrical systems design, installation, and maintenance, for solar energy projects
  - Battery Storage Technicians to specialise in the installation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of energy storage systems such as lithium-ion batteries used in solar systems or grid-scale energy storage facilities, and
  - Renewable Power System Integration Operators to manage the integration of renewable energy sources into the electrical grid, optimising power generation, transmission, and distribution to ensure grid stability and reliability
- **developing a Biofuel value chain policy** under which the following will be introduced:
  - adaptation of E10 biofuel (Blend of 90% gasoline and 10% ethanol)
  - the use of locally produced ethanol for E10 Biofuel, and
  - policies to support the cultivation of feedstock crops, establish biofuel processing facilities, ensure quality

standards for biofuel production, and create incentives for the adoption of E10 biofuel blends

- **formulating incentives for the private sector to further develop waste-to-energy projects** to generate power, control waste disposal, enhance sanitation, and reduce associated health risks
- **creating technical capacity** for the setting up of lithium battery plants locally
- **training and licensing local technicians** to service and maintain Electric Vehicles and Electric vehicles infrastructure, and
- **supporting Green Industry Start-ups by** incentivising, through tax regimes, grants, and favourable regulatory frameworks, to encourage sustainable businesses such as recycling

#### 4.2.2. Jobs in Aviation Services

With a rapidly growing infrastructure and passenger traffic, the aviation sector provides enormous potential to make Ghana an air transportation and logistics hub in the Region. The expansion of the Prempeh I International Airport, Kumasi (Phases II and III) and Yakubu Tali International Airport, Tamale (Phase II), and rehabilitation of the Sunyani Airport (Phase I), is expected to further accelerate the efficient movement of people, goods and services, and tourism in Ghana and across the Region.

Properly harnessed, and with the right investments, the aviation sector can create thousands of direct and indirect jobs. To facilitate and accelerate this potential, a Bawumia presidency will:

- **intensify our efforts to set up a national airline through a public-private and technical partnership**
- **construct a multi-storey car park at Kotoka International Airport's (KIA) T3**, to include commercial office spaces and restaurants, among others
- **continue the construction of the Northern Apron at KIA** to increase the number of aprons for aircraft parking, and extend the existing taxiway by 400 metres

- **revamp KIA's Runway Overlay by** constructing Runway Shoulders, improvement of Airfield Drainage, and supply and installation of LED Aeronautical Ground Lighting (AGL) Systems
- **dedicate KIA's Terminal 2 (T2) to regional flights**, as part of the broader strategy of making Ghana a regional aviation hub
- **extend Kumasi Airport's runway to accommodate wide-bodied aircraft**
- **further develop Sunyani Airport (via Phase II)** by extending the runway to allow for all domestic airlines to ply the Sunyani route
- **commence the development of the Cape Coast Airport**, for which funding has been secured under the Korean \$2 billion facility
- **in collaboration with the private sector, build an airport in the Upper East Region, and**
- **facilitate the establishment, by the private sector, of a Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility at the Tamale Airport**, to develop it into an aviation cargo, horticultural cargo, and logistics hub

Further, to ensure that Ghanaians take full advantage of the jobs that will be created with these investments, we will invest in **aviation training and education**, including:

- **investing in training programmes and institutions** to develop skilled professionals including pilots, maintenance technicians and air traffic controllers, and
- **entering into bilateral agreements with international airlines** to train aviation workers in Ghana

#### **4.2.3. Jobs in Professional Services**

Many of our service industries, especially finance, healthcare, education and creative sectors, are highly valued in the Region, and increasingly, internationally. A growing professional services market is a major job growth vector, and the next NPP administration will invest in making Ghana a centre of excellence for these services to attract regional and international clients.

To accelerate its job creation potential, a Bawumia Presidency will develop policies and legislation, as well as foster Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) arrangements, to establish a **Professional Services Hub** in Ghana, offering special Regional and international services, including:

- Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) services
- Specialist Medical Services
- Homecare Services, and
- Higher Education Services

### 4.2.4. Jobs Abroad Programme

The global labour market is at the point where many countries, developed and developing, are experiencing an ever-widening labour skills gap between demand and supply. There are labour shortages at different skill levels in African, Caribbean, and Middle Eastern countries as well as in the UK, Italy, Germany, Canada and Australia.

**This has created significant opportunities for countries like Ghana with excess, skilled labour.**

The next NPP administration, under a Bawumia presidency, will take a strategic view of these opportunities to invest in the further development of a pool of the most highly sought-after global skills for export, which can create thousands of potential jobs abroad for Ghanaians over the next four years.

To achieve this objective, we will:

- ensure the enactment of the Labour Bill, if not done before the final session of Parliament this year, including a fit-for-purpose labour migration/export provisions, pass the necessary enabling legislation, and, effectively regulate participants in the sector
- sign bilateral agreements with selected countries for Vacation Work Abroad, Skilled Migrant Work Programmes, Unskilled Migrant Work Programmes, and Agricultural Sector Migrant Workers Programmes among others, and

- the Ministry responsible for labour would facilitate these programmes, as well as ensure the safety and protection of Ghanaian workers from human traffickers and fraudsters.

#### 4.2.5. Jobs in Defence-Related Industries

As part of our strategy to expand and diversify our industrial base, and to create new jobs in emerging industries, the next NPP government will expand and utilise the capabilities of the defence-related industries being established under the **Tier Three Responses of the National Security Strategy 2020**.

The proposed Industrial Complex already has over thirty (30) Joint Venture Companies established in conjunction with private companies, both local and foreign, in areas such as:

- manufacturing of small calibre ammunitions
- assembling of armoured vehicles, including armoured bullion vans
- development of an onshore Logistics Hub
- construction and management of a Maintenance, Repairs and Overhaul facilities, and
- development of a Western Military Hospital in Takoradi.

Cumulatively, an investment portfolio of over US\$20 billion have been pulled together through these joint ventures, with over 30,000 direct jobs expected to be created within five years when all the businesses are operational.

To further its growth, and increase its job creation potential, we will also ensure, for example, that the Integrated Iron and Steel Value Chain Project we are developing feeds the businesses within the industry focusing on the assembling of vehicles and steel production, as well as provide special incentives to make them competitive and take advantage of the AfCFTA market.

### 4.3. NEW JOBS BY TRANSFORMING TRADITIONAL SECTORS

Agriculture, sports, tourism, creative arts, and construction (infrastructure development) have been key mainstays of our economic growth and development. As “Traditional Sectors,” they have provided a source of livelihood for a great number of people. However, they continue to operate at, especially in agriculture, basic levels, despite their potential. Emerging, new technologies provides opportunities to modernise and transform these sectors to play even more significant roles in economic growth and job creation.

A Bawumia presidency is committed to policy reforms and investments designed to attract targeted, long-term financing and incentives to these traditional sectors to create millions of jobs for the youth.

#### 4.3.1. Jobs In Agribusiness

The potential for expanding and creating thousands of new jobs in agribusiness in response to the opportunities in food security and food exports, including in AgriTech, is significant, and, it is why under a Bawumia presidency, we plan to make significant investments and reforms in the sector, including agricultural research, food production, food preservation and value-addition. Specifically, the next NPP administration will, among others:

- **collaborate with the private sector to create agricultural enclaves** in each region based on its comparative advantage
- **redirect Development Bank Ghana (DBG) to expand its financing and guarantee lines, through especially the proposed SME Bank we will set up, to support entities engaged in the manufacturing of value-added agricultural products** consumed in large quantities by Ghanaians, including the processing and packaging of basic agricultural foods, to accelerate growth of agro-industries
- through financing and guarantees from Development Bank Ghana (DBG) and the Ghana Incentive-Based Risk-Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (GIRSAL), **upscaling the**

**production and preservation** of staple foods, and meat, poultry and fish products, and

- **invest in research and development of digital and AI technologies** aimed at improving production, reducing postharvest losses, and packaging agricultural produce for freshness/longer shelf life as well as advances, farming under arid conditions, and Agric mechanisation.

#### 4.3.2. Jobs in Sports, Creative Arts, & Tourism

**The resilience of youth-dominated sectors like Sports, Creative Arts & Tourism, in times of crisis, as demonstrated recently during and post-Covid-19 Pandemic, highlights its potential as a key economic driver for national economic revitalisation and job-creation.**

To further enhance its potential to create more jobs, to diversify our exports and enhance Ghana's global soft power, a Bawumia presidency will commit resources to reform, finance, and attract investments into Sports, Creative Arts, and Tourism, including:

##### **For Tourism and Creative Arts**

- **financing and investments:**
  - **committing significant public sector investment** to support the development of tourism and the creative arts
  - **through DBG, implement a special financing and guarantee support** for the sector through banks, to support the creation of millions of jobs directly and in related areas
  - **exploring the use of tax incentives** to stimulate private sector investments in tourism and creative sector facilities, including in Conference Parks/ Campuses to attract large international events, and
  - **allocating seed funding into a Cultural Heritage Fund** to provide sustainable funding for the Chieftaincy institution, including funding activities aimed at promoting societal values, heritage, cultural festivals, and environmental issues

- **setting Ghana up as a Conference and Exhibition Destination** by:
  - prioritising the completion of the conference facility at the Ghana International Trade Fair site, and
  - as a major gold and other precious minerals producing country, explore partnerships with the private sector to create legacy, iconic gold installations, such as a Gold Museum or a Gold Walkway, to promote “gold tourism”
- **implementing an e-visa policy for all international visitors to Ghana**, to make visa acquisition fast and “convenient” for visitors
- **implementing a visa-free policy for nationals of African and Caribbean countries visiting Ghana**
- **establishing regional Creative Hubs** to nurture local talent and products, as well as empower the export of creative goods
- **supporting the establishment of a streaming and digital management platform for Ghanaian content developers in the creative arts, to:**
  - facilitate the tracking, collection, and distribution of royalties
  - enable creatives assess and manage revenues and
  - help the sector maximise opportunities around copyright, payments for content and revenue flow, as well as data for analytics
- **supporting the establishment, of a National Hospitality Training School**
- **prioritising training and upskilling** in the Creative, Tourism, and Cultural industries, and
- **Implementing a Travel Protocol Service (TPS)** to support artistes, performers, and other creatives, enabling them to honour performance invitations, seize new opportunities, engage in cultural dialogues, and present their artistry internationally. The TPS will facilitate international travel arrangements and logistics for creatives.

## For Sports

- **working with stakeholders to bring back the passion and love for sports**
- **establishing a Sports Development Fund** to develop sports infrastructure, talent, and grassroots sports programmes, including the revival of Colts football and leagues across the country
- **upgrading the surfaces of our football pitches to meet the highest international Standards** (Kumasi, Accra, Cape Coast, Legon, Tamale & Essipong)
- **continuing the construction of AstroTurfs for every constituency to boost the development of our talents including juvenile football.** We have increased from 3 AstroTurfs as at 2016 to 150 in 2024
- **start an “Operation Olympics Glory” programme** by dedicating resources towards the preparation and readiness of athletes to the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles, USA, including, where necessary, targeting specific sports for medals
- **providing tax credits and rebates** for companies sponsoring sporting activities and clubs
- **support the revival of the Premier League and Clubs to improve commercial viability, and to create related jobs by:**
  - **directing policy through the National Lotteries Authority and the Gaming Commission to establish and fund a Sports Employment Module** to assist Premier League clubs fund operational expenses, including player remuneration, and
  - **provide a bus each** to Premier League Clubs
- **building six (6) 5,000-seater capacity, standard stadiums** in the 6 new regions
- **promoting school sports by:**
  - **establishing a Ghana School Sports Secretariat to create more opportunities for young people in sports** and

collaborate with international sports bodies like the NBA and NFL to make Ghana a hub for emerging sports in Africa

- **providing sporting equipment and kits, and other resources, to primary schools** to facilitate a new School Sports Development Programme, and
- **integrating a new, standardised school sports curriculum** into physical education programmes across schools
- **creating and implementing a stringent, regular maintenance plan** to ensure the sustainability and longevity of all sports facilities across the country
- **instituting training programmes for physical education teachers** to enhance their ability to coach and nurture young talents
- **partnering private sector stakeholders to develop a structured qualification system** that allows athletes to progress from local to national competitions, ensuring fair representation and talent recognition
- **designing and implementing a comprehensive database to track the progress of identified talents**, in partnership with the private sector, to facilitate a data-driven approach to talent development for national teams
- **animation, gaming, and eSports represents a significant opportunity for investment in Ghana** to establish itself as a hub for content creation for the region and globally. With over 200 million gamers currently on the continent, expected to increase to over 500 million, the potential for creating thousands of jobs is substantial. Our strategy will include:
  - **initiating partnerships with the private sector to kick-start** the development of a major Animation, Game Factory, and eSports infrastructure in Ghana
  - **recognising eSports as mainstream sports** to attract eSports athletes to come to Ghana to participate in events, and

- **partnering global stakeholders in the Animation, Game Factory, and eSports ecosystem** such as Sony, Electronic Arts, Apple, Google, Microsoft, Meta, International Esports Federation, and African Confederation of Digital Sports to help grow the sector in Ghana

#### **4.3.3. Jobs Through Public Infrastructure Works and Maintenance**

Government spends billions on public infrastructure development and maintenance annually.

To facilitate and incentivise this jobs-creating and growth vector, we have committed to partnering with the private sector to finance, build, and rent or lease-to-own the vast majority of public infrastructure, from schools to homes, and from roads to equipment and vehicles.

It is estimated that through this initiative, over 500,000 direct and indirect jobs can be created in the housing sector alone within

4 years, in addition to jobs in roads, education, and hospital infrastructure development.

A Bawumia presidency will realise the creation of millions of jobs for the youth, especially artisans with TVET skills by:

- leveraging government purchasing power and channelling it towards the private sector, to create a stable and increased pipeline of projects and revenue on the basis of which they will create jobs, and
- **reviving and resourcing, including with modern equipment and state-of-the-art workshops, the Public Works Department (PWD)**, to be the primary government agency responsible for maintenance of public infrastructure across the country. Resources will also be invested in recruiting and retaining artisans, including carpenters, welders, masons, mechanics, and electricians, among many others

## 4.4. SUPPORTING THE JOB CREATION ECOSYSTEM

To further support our extensive, transformational job creation initiatives in high tech, green energy, aviation, professional services, jobs-abroad, defence-related, agribusiness, tourism, creative arts, heritage, sports, and infrastructure development and maintenance industries, a Bawumia presidency will facilitate:

- **additional financing options** to complement industry- specific funds, and
- **target resources towards operations, research and development (R&D), and export markets**

### 4.4.1. Additional Financing Opportunities

A Bawumia presidency will:

- **refocus and attract long term capital for the Venture Capital Trust Fund** to provide early-stage, patient capital for the education, manufacturing, healthcare and businesses in the professional services value chain, and
- **establish and fully resource an SME Bank**, to address the special financing needs of small businesses that are not being addressed by traditional banks. In addition to its own funding for on-lending, the SME Bank will become a participating partner in the GH¢8.2 billion Growth and Opportunity Programme.

### 4.4.2. Target Resources Towards Operations, R&D, and Export Markets

#### 4.4.2.1. Improvements in the Business Environment

To further improve the business environment to support job-creation and economic transformation at the scale we have planned, a Bawumia government will:

- **implement a significant shift in electricity tariffs** structure to a regime in which commercial rates are either equal to, or lower

than residential rates, never higher, to power industries and businesses

- **consolidate all**, mainly entrepreneurial support and funding agencies, youth employment schemes and support services, and all constituent funds, under one overarching entity, Ghana Enterprises Agency (GEA). This will ensure:
  - better optimisation, oversight, and accountability, and, to further accelerate the impact of government's objectives, enable programmes and funding reach more beneficiaries through the consolidation of beneficiary databases, and
  - consistency with our commitment to reducing the size and footprint of government
- reform and restructure the GEA to ensure greater focus on programme support and financing to small business and young entrepreneurs, instead of administrative and bureaucratic activities
- **incentivise Ghanaian start-ups in selected, strategic sectors with Investment Tax Credits (ITC)** for the first three (3) years of their operations
- **enhance infrastructure for trade efficiency** by completing the installation of dedicated railway lines for the transportation of goods in transit
- to ensure the effectiveness of our economic and trade diplomacy, invest in improving the infrastructure and services that underpin international trade, including:
  - **the creation of Special Economic Zones** to facilitate industrialisation and trade of goods and services
  - **development of sector-focused business enclaves** across the country to provide infrastructure to support businesses, particularly warehouses, roads linking major trade corridors, and ports, and
  - **investing in digital connectivity through the Ghana Trade Information Hub** to enhance data connectivity with the African Trade Observatory, ensuring seamless access to trade data and analytics

- **invest in a National Skills, Equipment & Workshop Development Programme (NSEWD) initiative** that will assist with the provision of makerspaces and common user facilities, subsidised equipment, and interest-free hire purchase options for artisans
- **reinvigorate the Ghana Trade Fair** to focus on promoting “Made in Ghana” products and services, enhancing visibility and market access for local industries
- **introduce a “Buy Ghana First” policy by using Government’s purchasing power to stimulate industrial expansion and business growth, which will help create jobs.** Under this policy, backed by legislation and strictly enforced, we will prioritise the procurement of locally produced goods and services by public institutions
- **stop all sales of forms to job applicants by public and quasi-public institutions, including by the security services.** All application forms will be made available online for free, and government will work with the relevant institutions to set up the necessary digital infrastructure to help with administering the recruitment process
- **convene a Business Advisory Council of local and international investors and businesspeople** to regularly advise the President on best practices and emerging in business, and
- **the high cost of, and often unreliable delivery systems continues to be a significant barrier for the growth of e-commerce businesses in Ghana.** It is the major constraint vendors, mostly small businesses, and consumers have pointed to. In addition, consumers have often complained about being scammed by online businesses. Reducing, or removing these constraints have the potential to increase the volume and value of online business, improve price discovery and therefore competitive pricing, as well as creating thousands of jobs for small businesses in Ghana.

We will facilitate the removal of this barrier by:

- **strengthening Ghana Post to provide efficient delivery services**, including augmenting its fleet with EVs, E-Bikes,

and drones to further reduce the cost of delivery for small businesses

- **supporting Ghana Post to develop an open digital courier and delivery services platform** for its own and other registered private sector courier firms use, to greatly expand the availability of efficient delivery services to support online businesses, and
- **extend the platform to include e-commerce features** for small businesses, with the integration of private sector-developed digital trust services, to reduce scamming and provide escrow services between buyers and sellers

#### 4.4.2.2. Invest in Scientific Research and Development (R&D) and Innovation

The next NPP administration will launch an **STI-Plus** (STI+: Science, Technology, and Innovation Plus) Programme, consistent with the overall national STI vision, as part of its overall strategy to support the transformational job creation thrust over the next few years.

The primary focus of the STI-Plus/STI+ programme is to **effectively link research and enterprise, for greater economic, job-creation, and environmental impacts, in a consolidated approach to avoid duplicating efforts and spreading R&D financing too thin.**

A lot of public research has been taking place in institutions that are under the control of different ministries. The lack of effective inter-ministerial linkages and coordination on R&D, and institutional boundaries, however, does not allow for meaningful and effective collaboration, coordination, and utilisation of research output.

In order to address these institutional weaknesses, and properly direct efforts and financing, and to focus our national R&D on supporting economic growth and job creation, a Bawumia presidency will:

- **restructure the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to enable it better play its role as the nation's primary research entity**, and to prioritise funding for research



- **the CSIR will be:**
  - the highest scientific research oversight body of the country, and shall exercise same over all public research entities and facilities outside of public universities, and
  - be constituted of representation of research scientists, subject-matter experts, and any other persons with related professional expertise, such as in business development, technology transfer, and entrepreneurship, that may be relevant
- **promote research uptake and enterprise development** by focusing public funding on technologies that have direct local application and potential for uptake by industry, or for stimulating the development of new enterprises. Major emphasis will be placed on innovations improving Ghanaian technologies, to raise productivity and quality in our local/village industries
- **incentivise the development of Technology and Science Parks** to serve as innovation hubs for professionals and firms to work together in the field of technological innovation and scientific applications
- **formalise and promote partnership between the CSIR and all stakeholders**, to ensure research into areas of national priority, and findings, will be promptly piloted and commercialised
- **implement a National Strategic Research Facilities Improvement Programme** under which we will upgrade critical national laboratories and research facilities that need substantial enhancement to support scientific research, technology development and innovation, and
- **strengthen science relating to agriculture, fisheries, and livestock by:**
  - equipping research laboratories and institutions with modern facilities
  - incentivising scientists to provide technological innovations/solutions, and
  - building modern tissue culture and biotech species to promote innovation and address specific issues with plant breeding and yields

#### 4.4.2.3. Open Global Markets and Opportunities

The next NPP administration will leverage our diplomatic resources towards enhancing economic growth and job creation. Specifically, we will, among others:

- **deepen economic partnerships, open new markets and take advantage of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA)**, to attract investments and boost exports of Ghana-Made products and services, including professional services such as medical and healthcare tourism, higher education, and labour skills export exponentially, and
- **resource the Ghana Export Promotion Authority (GEPA)**, and facilitate closer collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to provide technical, financial, and diplomatic resources to Ghanaian enterprises in the Non-Traditional Exports (NTEs) sector, to increase the penetration of Ghanaian products in AfCFTA and globally

## 4.5. LABOUR RELATIONS FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

The role of organised Labour in delivering on this massive job creation effort cannot be overstated. As partners in development, Labour, in both the public and private sector, has contributed immensely to maintaining a conducive atmosphere for economic growth, job creation, and prosperity.

To further this relationship and ensure that we deliver on these ambitious goals, the next NPP administration, under a Bawumia Presidency, will:

- **establish a fixed annual calendar for regular consultations and meetings with Labour**, to ensure emerging issues are proactively addressed, as well as cross-fertilising ideas for better labour relations
- **strengthen labour institutions to enable them better execute their mandate**, including the Fair Wages and Salaries

Commission, National Labour Commission, Labour Department, and Department of Factories Inspectorate

- **set up a multi-stakeholder Committee to review the Single Spine Salary Structure**, and to make recommendations, where necessary, for an improved public sector remuneration regime
- **work with Labour and other stakeholders to explore expanding the “Essential Service Providers” list**, to facilitate economic growth, and
- **pass, if not done before the final session of Parliament** this year, the Labour Bill and supporting legislation.





# PART II

## ENRICHING THE LIVES OF CITIZENS

NEW PATRIOTIC PARTY



DEVELOPMENT IN FREEDOM



GHANA  
BANK OF GHANA  
20  
GHANA CEDI



## 5. REDUCING THE COST OF LIVING AND SECURING THE BASICS FOR ALL

The primary responsibility of government is to provide a conducive environment for its people, communities, and businesses to thrive.

A Bawumia Presidency will therefore prioritise the reduction of the cost of living and provision of the basics for Ghanaians. To achieve this objective, we will:

- **ensure sustainable food security** by attracting appropriate financing for agricultural and agribusiness activities, including investing in research, and the application of digital and AI technologies aimed at improving production; reducing post-harvest losses; packaging agricultural produce, including fish; and in mechanisation
- **reduce the cost of public transportation** by facilitating private sector investments in EV transportation and infrastructure, expanding the Gold-For-Oil programme to stabilise the impact of the exchange rate on fuel prices, as well as stabilising the prices of spare parts through the “**Flat Rate for all importers**” policy which will bring predictability and stability on prices of imported spare parts
- **ensure housing access through a variety of housing options**, including social and an affordable housing, and an enhanced mortgage ecosystem
- **ensure stable and affordable power** for consumers, primarily by adding 2000 MW of solar power to the national grid
- **deepen the safety and security of communities and homes**, including green spaces, and
- **leverage digital technologies to make public services accessible** to all.

### 5.1. ENSURING FOOD SECURITY

Ghana has the capacity to feed herself, and to produce and export food to countries within the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Our commitment is to turn this potential into a reality.

Currently, more than 90% of the food we consume are only produced during certain months of the year. No food security strategy will therefore be effective if there is inadequate investment in all-year

round farming, and in post-harvest management, with the same sense of purpose and focus as has been with agricultural research.

Over the next four years, under a Bawumia presidency, priority and funding will be given to all aspects of the food production value chain, especially into production, processing, and post-harvest management of staple food, fish, poultry, and ruminants consumed in significant quantities by Ghanaians. Among others, we will:

- **accelerate efforts at de-risking agricultural financing** through the Ghana Incentive-Based Risk-Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (GIRSAL)
- **redirect Development Bank Ghana (DBG) to support entities engaged in the manufacturing of value-added agricultural products** consumed in large quantities by Ghanaians, including the processing and packaging of basic agricultural foods
- **upscale the production and preservation** of staple foods, and meat, poultry and fish products using financing and guarantee schemes from DBG and GIRSAL
- **in collaboration with the private sector, create agricultural enclaves in each region**, using the comparative advantage of the region. Each enclave will include storage and processing facilities for value addition
- **strengthen local food networks and markets**, to ensure seamless linkages between food baskets and markets, as well as equitable access to nutritious, culturally appropriate foods
- **launch an Expanded Irrigation Programme** which will include:
  - rehabilitation and expansion of the Veia Irrigation project
  - implementation of the Pwalugu Irrigation Scheme and Bui Irrigation Scheme
  - completion of feasibility studies and detailed designs of the Kaanba, Makango and Afram Plains Irrigation Projects, and
  - rehabilitation, modernisation and expansion of selected existing public irrigation schemes, including those undertaken through the “One Village, One Dam (1V1D)” initiative to increase the irrigation area

- **address competing land use challenges by clearly mapping out and zoning land for farming purposes (farmlands)**, and setting rules for reclamation of alternatively used land, such as for mining, to be used for farming
- **build upon the mechanisation centres established by the NPP administration to further create private sector- driven, state-of-the art mechanisation and service centres**, as well as implement targeted credit schemes for dealers of mechanisation equipment to accelerate the uptake of mechanisation, and
- **expand Ghana Commodity Exchange (GCX)'s role in the aggregation, purchasing, storage, warehousing and trading of basic food crops**

## 5.2. REDUCING THE COST OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

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Our plan to reduce the cost of public transportation will be achieved by facilitating private sector investments in EV transportation and infrastructure, expanding the Gold-For-Oil Programme (G4O) to continue stabilising the price of fuel, stabilising the prices of spare parts through the **“Flat Rate for all importers”** policy which will bring predictability and stability on prices of imported spare parts.

### EV Transportation

By facilitating the strategic development of an EV charging infrastructure network for example, we will incentivise, in the short term, public EV transportation systems and in the long term, accelerate mass adoption of private electric vehicles. To achieve these objectives, we will, among others (as outlined in Chapter 10.6.1):

- **promote the manufacturing and assembly of EVs locally**, including two and three-wheeler vehicles, enhance incentives for EV imports, and implement a comprehensive strategy for developing a nationwide EV charging infrastructure

- **commit to, when necessary to buy or replace them, public agencies procuring EV saloon cars,** and
- **ensure a rigorous energy mix,** especially solar, for easy charging of EV batteries

### **Availability of Fairly Priced Spare Parts**

We recognise that during the transition period, millions of non-Electric vehicles, both for private use and in mass public transportation, will continue to serve as a major form of commuting to work, and for transportation of goods, including farm produce, across the country.

The availability of fairly priced and easily accessible parts for these vehicles have long been a major driver in the cost of transportation in Ghana (and potentially in reducing road accidents) and the reason cost of spare parts is a key part in determining fares charged by commercial vehicles.

On the supply side, spare part vendors have traditionally had to rely on inefficient foot traffic, or, on a few “regular customers,” mainly mechanics, who will call to enquire about parts availability and pricing.

In addition, many spare parts hubs, especially in Abossey Okai (Accra), Suame Magazine (Kumasi), and in Techiman, provide lots of jobs for young people specialising in matching customer requests with suppliers, as well as supply ancillary support services, such as fixing wipers, changing tyres, and auto electrical works.

Recognising the massive efficiencies we can bring to the spare parts and related market, including increased business volumes for vendors, access to genuine parts, price discovery leading to cheaper prices, and thousands of additional jobs it will generate, a Bawumia presidency will, among others:

- **work with, and incentivise private sector platform developers to develop an integrated digital marketplace for spare parts** that will include a centralised inventory management system as well as interfaces for vendors, mechanics, ancillary services suppliers, and the public

- **provide logistical support** for onboarding participants in the marketplace, especially in populating the inventory system, including potential integration with the Customs Import database, ICUMS, for continuous updates to the database
- **working with Fintechs and other financial services providers**, integrate transaction payment processors as well as credit services unto the platform
- **retrain the thousands of young people providing ancillary services in these hubs, to equip them with digital and related skills** to continue to provide these services using the platform, and
- stabilise the prices of spare parts through the “**Flat Rate for all importers**” of spare parts, which will bring predictability and stability in prices

### Reforming Driver Licensing Regime

To bring Ghana’s driver licensing regime closer to international standards, and to ease the burden on drivers, we will extend the mandatory period of renewals. Consequently, driver’s licenses will be issued and valid for 10 years, renewable every five years.

### Expansion of Gold-For-Oil (G4O) Programme

The introduction of the G4O helped fuel importers negotiate better, more competitive premiums with suppliers, with premiums dropping from US\$180-US\$200/MT to US\$70/MT or less.

This, and the reduction in forex pressure, has helped to keep fuel prices stable. To further ensure stability, we will expand the G4O programme to increase its penetration in the oil market.

## 5.3. ACCESS TO HOUSING FOR ALL

The next NPP administration, under a Bawumia presidency, will roll out a National Housing Programme which will incentivise the private sector to close the housing gap within ten (10) years, providing

Ghanaians **with access** to decent, affordable housing in liveable and well-planned settlements.

Specifically, we will:

- **provide three broad options, including public and private sector housing, to meet various income levels** as follows:
  - **Social Housing:** including homeless shelters (overnight stay for the vulnerable) and an expanded Rental Assistance Scheme for low-income workers
  - **Affordable Housing:** including District Housing projects through incentives to the private real estate industry, as well as expanded services of State Housing Company (SHC), TDC, and National Homeownership Fund (NHF), and
  - **Improving Housing Finance:** through an expansion of the mortgage market, as well as rent-to-own schemes

We will use a variety of ways to deliver access to the various types of accommodation. For example, for Social Housing, we will provide public lands within our main cities to private developers, and make it mandatory for them to “set aside” between 20% to 30% for low-income social housing units with subsidised rents

- **work in partnership with Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs) and charities to provide Homeless Shelters** (dormitory type with overnight stay facilities) for vulnerable populations in urban areas who, generally, require the safety of decent, basic shelters
- use a mix of public housing, incentives, rental assistance, and investment in infrastructure to increase our housing stock, including:
  - **redevelopment of Inner-City Public Lands:** under this scheme, government will provide public lands in strategic areas of main cities to, and in partnership with private developers, redevelop into residential homes with **mandatory “set aside” requirements of between 20% to 30% low-income, social housing units with subsidised rents.** This will dramatically increase the housing stock available for working families in areas with already existing urban infrastructure, and which is close to workplaces

- **provision of Land Banks to Master Developers**, by reducing the bureaucracy around land acquisition for housing
- **state provision of horizontal infrastructure** such as roads, water, electricity and renewable energy to all other public-private partnership housing project sites
- **tax waivers on machinery and materials imported by Master Developers** for large-scale housing projects. (This is to ensure units are completed at agreed affordable rent and price points)
- **expanding and continuing to use the National Rental Assistance Scheme (NRAS)** to cushion tenants and give rent payment assurance to landlords
- leveraging the **National Homeownership Fund**, and **Pension Fund**-backed mortgages, to offtake completed housing projects, which will provide investment security to developers
- enhance the **National Homeownership Fund (NHF)**, which was established in 2017 by the NPP, to facilitate the provision of cheap construction financing and expand the mortgage portfolio in the financial sector by:
  - » ensuring that members of Workers Unions are prioritised for projects and mortgages funded by the NHF, and
  - » NHF mortgages are in fixed-interest Cedi-based mortgages, and
- an **Enhanced Mortgage System** to facilitate purchase of homes with cedi-denominated mortgages by Ghanaian workers.

## 5.4. STABLE, AFFORDABLE, & RELIABLE POWER FOR CONSUMERS

While we have kept the power on for eight years, residential, commercial, and industrial consumers still face issues with the reliability and cost competitiveness of power supply.

The unreliable service delivery and high electricity tariffs are not only a source of deep inconvenience for homes, schools, communities, businesses and industries; they increase household budgets, disrupt schooling and community activities, and cause downtimes for artisans, factories and businesses, hindering economic growth and development.

Solving these challenges also bring with it an opportunity to radically transform our energy mix to align with, and embrace global efforts at transitioning to and integrating renewable sources.

A Bawumia presidency will therefore:

- **roll out 2000 MW of solar power**, aimed at reducing the cost of electricity
- **incentivise solar power users through the net metering system** under which households and other producers of solar power get “credits” for excess power they send to the national grid, against which they can use grid power when not on solar
- **continue government’s plans to establish a nuclear power plant** to generate affordable electricity for industrial and domestic uses, and
- **introduce measures that will accelerate national electrification to achieve universal electricity access by 2028**, ensuring economic development, improved quality of life, social equity, and environmental sustainability

## 5.5. DEEPEN THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF COMMUNITIES AND HOMES

A thriving community is one in which every Ghanaian is assured of personal safety and security, no matter where they live or work, and that they can access and enjoy nature and recreational facilities that overall enhances their personal wellbeing and that of their families.

A Bawumia presidency will continue to protect, and deepen the high levels of public safety and security we currently enjoy in our communities by implementing a **Safe Neighbourhoods Programme (SNP) that will include:**

- **lighted communities**
- **working with local governments and environmental CSOs**, to invest in the “Environmental Quality of Life” of citizens by:
  - promoting and ensuring **Clean Streets** with manicured greens and paved pedestrian walkways
  - investment in Green Zones and public parks, as well as incorporating green elements into all public infrastructure projects. **We will preserve all designated public parks and green zones**
- **expanding anti-crime camera systems** into neighbourhoods by rolling out 50,000 more, in addition to the 11,000 already installed, and also providing the police with body-worn cameras
- **strengthening police mobility** and effectiveness
- **recruit at least 20,000 security** personnel by 2028
- **the proper regulation and monitoring of private security firms**, as well as standards, training, and licensing of individual security guards by enacting a Private Security Industry Act
- **enhancing the Forensics Laboratory** of the Police service and amending the Evidence Act 1975 to provide the legal framework for digital evidence admissibility
- **protecting the privacy and digital rights of citizens** by pursuing legislative measures and public awareness campaigns to safeguard individual privacy and ensure the responsible use

of digital technologies, including the implementation of the National Child Online Protection (COP) Framework to safeguard the online experiences of minors.

## 5.6. MAKING GOVERNMENT SERVICES EASIER TO ACCESS

No government since independence has been this committed to investing to make government and government services as accessible as the Akufo-Addo-led administration.

The registration of over 18 million people for the GhanaCard, the integration of separate public databases (tax identification, social security, driver licenses, public payroll, criminal records, and SIM Cards), and the introduction of Mobile Money Interoperability (MMI) which has led to Ghana achieving 100% financial inclusion, as well as several digital initiatives by the NPP, including the National Digital Property Addressing System, the digitisation of the acquisition of passports, buying or paying for electricity units from ECG, the National Electronic Pharmacy Platform (e-Pharmacy) and a single-point of access to, and payment for public services (Ghana.Gov) are all designed to make government services accessible to citizens.

These have greatly contributed to making life convenient for citizens. Further digitalisation means Ghanaians can enjoy the efficiency and cost-savings.

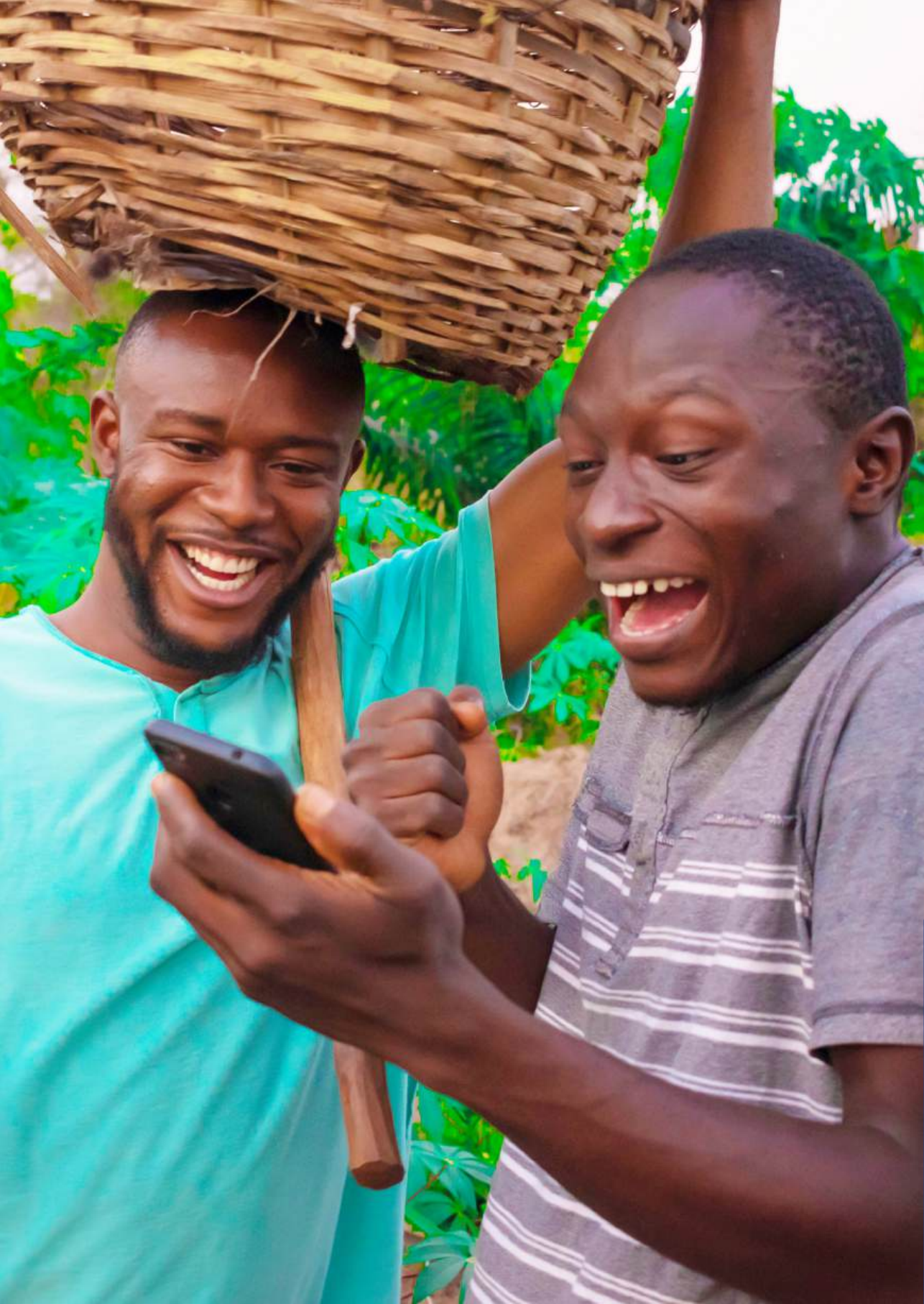
Under a Bawumia Presidency, we will continue to invest additional resources in bringing the benefits of these services closer, in the palm of your hands and in the communities and neighbourhoods in which you work and live.

We will do this by:

- **reducing human interfacing in accessing services.** To achieve this objective, we will enhance the Citizen App and Portal Platform to provide a single, secure, and user-friendly interface for accessing government services by citizens

- **adopting the “once-only-principle”** in which citizens and businesses provide basic information only once, and the information is reused across all government agencies and services.
- **using the “once-only-principle”**, citizens with Ghana Card will no longer be required to fill passport application forms since the information required is already linked to the Ghana Card, and
- **establishing a Citizens Bureaux** across Ghana using Ghana Post’s infrastructure to serve as both the “last mile” connection and bridge between citizens and the digital government. (for those requiring assistance to interface with new technologies as well as in accessing services)







## 6. A DIGITAL STATE TO CONNECT CITIZENS WITH SERVICES

## 6.1. COMMITMENTS OF THE DIGITAL STATE

Under a Bawumia Presidency, Ghana will lead the way in rapidly digitising government services, creating a seamless and transparent experience for every citizen. By integrating and consolidating our technology solutions into a few powerful, user-centric platforms, we will break down silos and enable real-time data interoperability. This is not just about reducing queues or cutting wait times – it is about reimagining how government services should work. To make this vision a reality, we will ensure nationwide internet connectivity, reduce the cost of data, and make devices affordable for all. We are eliminating outdated inefficiencies like “whom you know” favouritism, “land guardism”, missing files, and long queues.

Our vision is to build a future where transparency, accountability, and participation are the cornerstones of governance, empowering every citizen to interact with government services effortlessly.

At the heart of our digital transformation is therefore the digitisation of government services to efficiently, conveniently, and affordably deliver services to citizens, while also minimising the opportunities for corruption and advancing the growth of a digital economy for development.

We have grouped these into four broad commitments:

- no public or private institution will ask you to supply your basic data again once you have a GhanaCard
- we will protect your digital rights by guaranteeing your digital identity
- in the Digital State environment, we will ensure that you stay “connected” at all hours so you can effortlessly, and seamlessly access government services digitally, and
- access to government services will not depend on “who you know”. You will not have to go through “goro boys,” nor endure long queues to get the services you have a right to.

To deliver on these commitments, under the next NPP administration, we will coalesce government digital solutions into a set of platforms to simplify citizens’ access to government services, including:

- **implementing a Framework for Government Digital Services and Infrastructure** that delivers seamless, automated access to government services including, among others:
  - possessing a digital identity, a digital signature, and a digital mailbox for all official communications. This ensures every citizen can complete, sign, and send official documents for government services, from end-to-end, online
  - adopting a whole-of-government, Once-Only Principle, where citizens and businesses provide certain information only once, and that information is reused across various government services and agencies as needed, reducing administration, eliminating redundancy, and improving efficiency in delivery of government services, and
  - implementing blockchain technology and smart contracts for secure data exchange and transparent e-government services. Employing a distributed ledger technology improves transparency and efficiency
- **an enhanced Citizen App (and online platform) to:**
  - provide a single, secure, and user-friendly interface for citizens to access all government services, and
  - disintermediate the process of accessing government services by eliminating person-to-person contact and engagements with several public institutions, and, instead, accessing services with few clicks and not having to think about which public agency is providing the service
- **treating digital services as a utility by:**
  - ensuring digital government services are delivered as utilities, with a 99.99% uptime, to support the quick and efficient delivery of essential government services
  - ensuring the progressive reduction in the cost of data to promote inclusivity
  - establishing a framework to protect critical infrastructure and data, to minimise potential negative impact on citizens and government service delivery in periods of disruption



- bridging the digital divide and empowering rural communities by expanding high-speed internet infrastructure and basic telephony coverage across Ghana
- making digital devices accessible and affordable for all Ghanaians, especially in rural and less-advantaged communities, and
- eliminating import duties on mobile phones until manufacturing capacity is established in Ghana
- **abolish E-Levy**
- **fully implementing and deploying the digital Platform** to transform the way civil servants work. The platform will digitise the civil service workload, reduce bureaucracy, and increase efficiency in service delivery
- **enhancing citizen experience through customer service support by:**
  - leveraging the proposed **Citizens Bureaux**, in collaboration with Ghana Post, to provide last-mile support to access to digital government services, and
  - establishing a dedicated division within NITA (National Information Technology Agency) to support developers and technology firms to better leverage the digital superhighway and foster innovation

## 6.2. SUSTAINING THE DIGITAL STATE

To ensure the resilience of the digital state, and to realise its full potential, we will implement open governance structures, accelerate financial inclusion, and invest in our cybersecurity capabilities and infrastructure.

### 6.2.1. Promoting Open Governance of The Digital State

The long-term viability of the digital state requires open, transparent governance structures. We will therefore implement an open legal, institutional, infrastructure, and service framework to build trust with all stakeholders, including:

- **appointing a Chief Digital Officer (CDO)** at the Presidency to advise, and coordinate, the design and implementation of all government digital initiatives and policies. The CDO shall be responsible for **establishing a Centralised Coordination Mechanism to:**
  - centralise the coordination of digital initiatives across government
  - support institutional arrangements, collaboration frameworks, standards, and platforms, with a clear definition of roles and responsibilities in implementing the digital transformation agenda, and
  - using a whole-of-government approach to build trust in the delivery and management of digital shared services
- **ensuring policy continuity and stability across administrations** by organising an open stakeholder forum to build consensus with key stakeholders to depoliticise digital initiatives
- **building a Digital Superhighway** that will serve as the backbone of Ghana’s digital infrastructure, connecting all government digital solutions, private sector platforms, and citizens. The Digital Superhighway is a high-speed, secure, and scalable digital infrastructure that enables the free flow of data, services, and applications across government agencies, private sector entities, and citizens, enabling seamless data exchange, integration, and innovation, and driving economic growth, efficiency, and transparency
- **harmonising governing laws to support the growth of our digital economy by:**
  - reviewing relevant legislation, including the Electronic Communications Act, 2008 (Act 775), and the Electronic Transaction Act, 2008 (Act 772) to ensure alignment with industry trends, needs, standards, and technologies, and
  - amending relevant legislation to establish a data interoperability platform among government agencies to share data and enable citizens to consume government services seamlessly, ensuring a “capture once only” outcome

- **promoting responsible content regulation and online safety, including** transactions, to ensure a safe and secure digital environment, while protecting consumer rights and intellectual property as well as safeguarding children and women from online harms and promoting a trustworthy digital space
- **fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration for better governance by:**
  - creating a collaborative, flexible, and responsive regulatory environment that drives innovation and growth in the digital economy, and
  - providing regulatory certainty and predictability to protect the investment and growth of industry players
- **promoting competition and inclusivity by:**
  - regulating IT and network connectivity sectors to promote competition and ensure affordability
  - reducing bottlenecks to speed up the permit and licensing process in the communication and connectivity space
  - attracting local and international players to increase connectivity and promote healthy competition in pricing, and
  - ensuring affordability and inclusivity through mechanisms for subsidising access in underserved areas or for economically disadvantaged populations
- **further enhancing the Performance Tracker to cover all government initiatives, from budget through procurement to completion**, providing end-to-end visibility and citizen engagement
- **prioritising the development of a robust and efficient national backbone infrastructure** to bridge the digital divide, and empowering Ghanaians to participate fully in the digital economy by investing in fibre optic network, consolidate and share network infrastructure, implementing a technology-neutral spectrum licensing, establishing minimum speeds for broadband, and designating certain digital public services, including education, health, and agricultural services as data-

free, ensuring equal access for all Ghanaians regardless of location or socioeconomic status

- **promoting Public-Private Partnerships to deliver on our goals by:**
  - collaborating with telecom companies to expand broadband coverage and improve connectivity
  - incentivising local tech firms to invest in innovation hubs, data centres, and digital services, and
  - encouraging private sector players to provide funding, technical skills, and expertise in mutually rewarding projects
- **promoting monetisation and value creation of the digital ecosystem:**
  - exploring the creation of data marketplaces to monetise anonymised data to fund digital initiatives, and
  - organising hackathons and challenges to solve local problems and provide funding and support to winners, and
- **investing in a national digital disaster recovery infrastructure** through the implementation of a Digital Ghana Embassy

### **6.2.2. Using Financial Inclusion to Build an Inclusive Digital State**

The digital state under a Bawumia presidency is one committed to accelerating Ghana's transition to a cashless economy. We will achieve this by:

- **deepening the use of digital financial services**, building on the success of Mobile Money Interoperability and the 100% financial inclusion achieved
- **promoting full digital payments for all transactions** by facilitating seamless electronic transactions, promoting digital inclusion, and supporting the growth of our digital economy and state
- **expanding implementation and adoption of the e-Cedi for widespread use** while ensuring robust privacy protections for all

transactions and the safeguarding of citizens' data in accordance with Ghanaian laws and their rights to privacy

- **launching a Ghana Universal Digital Wallet (GUD) (“Sovereign Wallet”)** to facilitate social protection transfers, comprehensive financial inclusion, and seamless government-to-people payments while ensuring 100% deposit protection for wallet holders
- **prioritising digital trust by establishing a robust and comprehensive regulatory framework** to mitigate fraud, ensure transaction security, consumer protection, and financial stability, as well as provide the enabling environment for the development of digital trust services in collaboration with the private sector
- **enhancing digital infrastructure**, including internet connectivity and payment systems
- **educating citizens and small businesses** on the benefits and usage of digital payments, anti-money laundering, counter-terrorism financing, and fraud prevention
- **incentivising digital payments** through discounts, rewards, tax rebates, and
- **promoting open cross-border payments** facilitating Pan-African trade and commerce

### 6.2.3. Defending the Digital State's Assets

As we continue the digitalisation of all aspects of our economy and infrastructure, we are mindful of the risks posed by bad actors, who are mounting malicious attacks on government systems and infrastructure on a global scale. Therefore, defending our digital assets, to protect citizens and businesses, will be high on our priority list. Our plan to achieve this includes:

- protecting our Digital Assets from internal and external threats by:
  - implementing protocols and measures, including high security clearance, for staff working on government digital services and infrastructure, to prevent data breaches, manipulation, or intentional system downtime due to

negligence or bad faith. This will safeguard the integrity of our digital economy and ensure the trust and confidence of citizens and investors, and

- establishing the Cybersecurity Fund, in accordance with the Cybersecurity Act, to provide secured funding for the protection of our digital assets
- **implementing a decentralised cybersecurity model**, empowering stakeholders to assume ownership of cybersecurity responsibilities, and
- **developing a comprehensive cybersecurity education and training program**, including cybersecurity courses and professional development opportunities



# PART III

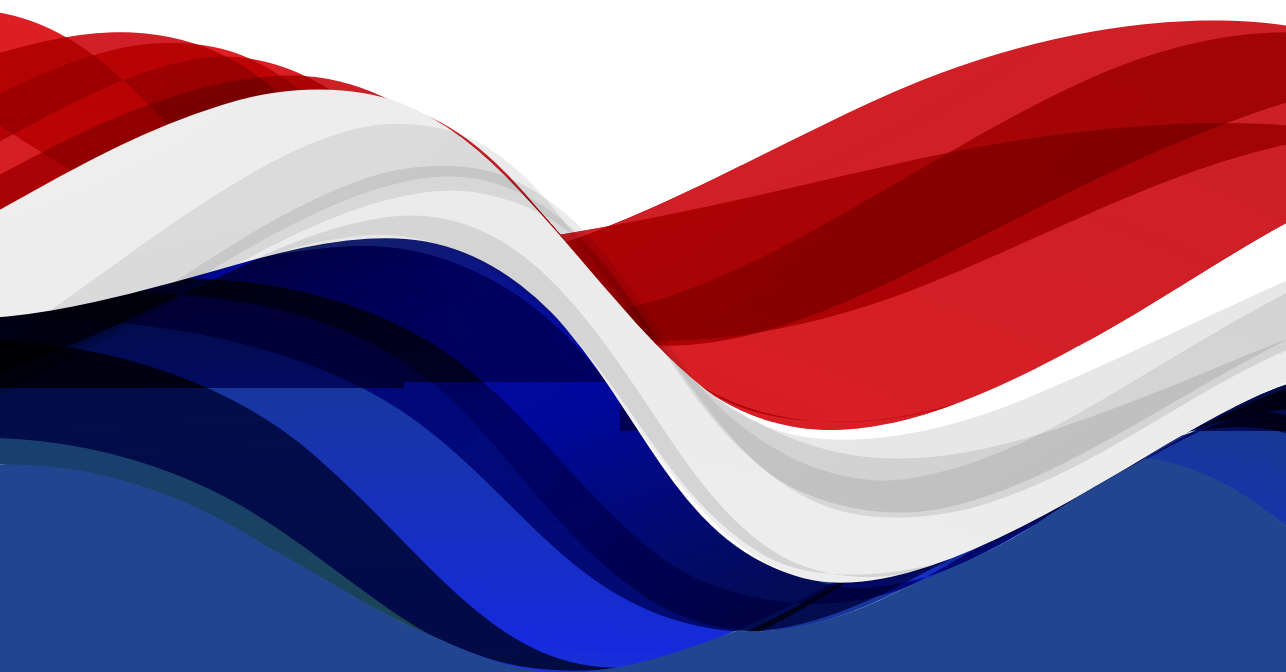
## SELFLESS LEADERSHIP AND A GOOD SOCIETY







## 7. FAIR, INCLUSIVE, AND RESPONSIBLE SOCIETY AND CITIZENSHIP



*“I want to build a nation that cares for and invests in the vulnerable.”*

**Mahamudu Bawumia**

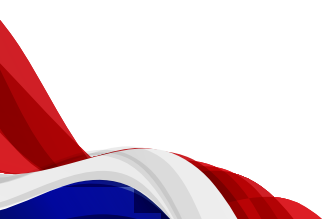
**A nation that prospers is one that protects, cares for, and invests in its vulnerable and the disadvantaged. It is also a nation that places premium on positive attitudes and values, and promotes citizen stewardship to match state responsibility, for accelerated economic growth.**

Over the years, we have built strong foundations around these nation-building levers. The NPP administration has invested in many successful social protection programmes, including LEAP, LIPW, School Feeding, DACF Transfers to PWDs, and Free SHS, TVET, among many others. Religious organisations, Chiefs and chieftaincy institutions, and civil society, have also actively participated in advancing positive attitudes and values, and citizen stewardship, towards national development.

However, we have not, as a nation, fully leveraged the potential of all stakeholders in an integrated, coordinated way as partners for nation-building and economic transformation.

To address these gaps, and to better provide for the vulnerable and disadvantaged, a Bawumia presidency will usher in a revived sense of community and nationhood, of personal and societal values, of stewardship and good citizenship, and accelerated support for the vulnerable and disadvantaged, by:

- **building a national coalition for a value-based, responsible society through a mass, coordinated mobilisation** of Chiefs and the chieftaincy institution, Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs), and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), to catalyse development
- **expanding and working towards a unified social protection benefits scheme**, and to better target beneficiaries for maximum impact
- **promoting the health, wellbeing, and welfare** of women and children
- **protecting the elderly** and ensuring sustainable, secured pensions



- **improving access to inclusive services and support for persons with disability**, including services for special needs citizens, mobility access, and special education and training programmes
- **enhancing access to justice and rehabilitation opportunities for Ghanaians who cannot afford to pay**, to give full meaning to the principle of “equality before the law”
- **promoting the welfare of settler and nomadic communities**, and
- **reforming institutions to achieve better inclusivity**

## **7.1. A NATIONAL COALITION FOR A VALUE-BASED, RESPONSIBLE SOCIETY AND CITIZENSHIP**

With progress often comes societal fragmentation, falling standards and values, and breakdown of community and patriotic feeling. Many citizens and stakeholder organisations in national development are deeply concerned about similar trends gaining root in Ghanaian society and culture.

Historically and traditionally, the Chieftaincy institution, Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs), and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) have played significant, even if uncoordinated, roles as guarantors of the cultural, religious and social values of the country; providers of welfare services; promoters of the unity, cohesion, peace and stability of the country; and, promoters of sustainable democracy and democratic consolidation, and accountability.

A Bawumia presidency will re-establish the pre-eminence of value-based leadership, predicated on selflessness, excellence, ethics, justice, integrity, transparency, diligence, and accountability, with the purpose of securing for ourselves and posterity, the blessings of liberty, equality of opportunity and prosperity without discrimination.

To lead this revival, the next NPP administration will, in pursuit of a **Value-Based Leadership and responsible Citizenship**, formalise the relationship between the State, Chiefs, FBOs and CSOs, and redefine and elevate their role in the national governance structure.

Specifically, we will, through NCCE and with the assistance of the Chieftaincy institution, FBOs, CSOs, and Youth Organisations:

- initiate a nationwide conversation on the moral vision and values that should define national leadership, and the role of citizens in maintaining an orderly society, and in advancing growth and development
- develop guidelines for ensuring the integration of these values into school curricular and public education programmes, and support implementation
- work with the partners to coordinate sustained education on these values in religious institutions and in public fora
- **establish a responsible Citizen Programme** to promote a strong national identity, community, and stewardship of community assets, and rules to serve as a cornerstone for developing value-based future leaders to drive transformative change in national development under which we will promote national symbols, to foster a cohesive national identity that recognises our diversity by:
  - making available the national flag and flagpoles to all, and requiring flags be flown at schools, public buildings throughout the year, and
  - encouraging local governments, churches, mosques, and schools to establish and celebrate Flag Days to celebrate national symbols
- **protect Ghanaian cultural and family values**
- **support the partners to better play their roles in building a value-based society by:**
  - providing support for the ongoing Chieftaincy-related policy and legislative work, including amendments to Section 63 of the Chieftaincy Act
  - **pay living allowances** to Paramount Chiefs, Divisional Chiefs, and Queen mothers
  - set up a Cultural Heritage Fund to provide sustainable funding for the Chieftaincy institution, particularly activities aimed at

promoting societal values, heritage, cultural festivals, and environmental issues

- partner the National House of Chiefs to establish a Chieftaincy Centre at the University of Local Governance and Development to serve as the premier centre for research and training on traditional democratic institutions and the history of stools and skins
- continue the efforts to codify the lines of successions with the help of the Judicial Council, of all the stools and skins, to facilitate the resolution of chieftaincy disputes in the country
- establish a “Queens/Queen Mothers Bureau or Desk” to serve as a point of engagement as key stakeholders on policy and programmatic issues
- incentivise the establishment of a National Civil Society Forum, for continuous interactions between the state and CSOs on policy and programmatic issues, and in pursuance of democratic inclusion and consolidation
- continue to actively engage FBOs as a leading moral institution in moulding the character and conduct of our citizens
- establish, in partnership with FBOs, a mechanism to set standards to ensure affordability, safe participation, and protection of Ghanaians of all faiths in pilgrimages abroad
- establish a National Interfaith Forum, including African traditional religions, that will promote dialogue on intra and interreligious coexistence to sustain the peace, unity and stability of the country, and position Ghana as a regional and global convening site for interreligious dialogue and peaceful coexistence
- designate FBOs as development partners, and offer them similar tax and incentives as external development partners, and
- introduce an additional holiday for Eid ul Adha



## 7.2. EXPAND AND UNIFY SOCIAL PROTECTION BENEFITS SCHEMES

Under a Bawumia presidency, we will:

- **expand the social protection (assistance) benefits scheme**, to maximise its impact, and
- **leverage technology to better target beneficiaries** – women and children, the elderly, Persons With Disability (PWDs), and settler and nomadic communities, to create a more inclusive, protective, and empowering environment for vulnerable and disadvantage citizens.

To achieve these objectives, over the next four years, we will:

- **review all existing social protection (assistance) programmes** to ensure their continued effectiveness and identify areas for improvement
- **enact the Social Protection Act**, and expedite its implementation
- **accelerate the digitisation of the social protection (assistance) administration framework to:**
  - better target beneficiaries through better data collection and analysis
  - eliminate duplications and improve coordination of programmes
  - better administer existing programmes, including eliminating fraud and improving efficiency, and
  - finalise the integration between the Ghana National Household Registry, the Social Protection Single Window Citizens Service, and the National Identification Scheme, with a **view to establishing a unified Universal Social Assistance System** to cover all social protection transfers, including for basic subsistence, rent and utilities subsidies, health insurance, childcare, education subsidies, and related assistance benefits to qualified beneficiaries
- **make all payments for subsidies or welfare support** through a Ghana Universal Digital (GUD) Wallet (a Sovereign Wallet)

- **further enhance the digitisation of the Department of Social Welfare** by linking it with programmes in the security services and the education sector, in order to better reach at-risk individuals and communities
- **work with FBOs and other charities** to build social protection facilities, including homeless shelters, across the country
- **to ensure that the appropriate legal regime and policy guidelines for the establishment of homecare**, nursing homes and rehabilitation services includes caregivers' support provisions as well, and
- **particularly for the Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP)**, improve programme delivery through the implementation of the digitalisation drive

### **7.3. PROMOTE THE HEALTH, WELLBEING, AND WELFARE OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

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The NPP established Ghana's first Ministry for Women and Children's Affairs, demonstrating its longstanding commitment and dedication to the wellbeing of women and children. We recognise that inequalities still exist and will continue to invest resources into the promotion of their health, wellbeing, and welfare.

#### **Women**

Under a Bawumia presidency, we will:

- **commit to the full implementation of the Affirmative Action Act** passed by the NPP
- **continue to invest in ensuring gender equality in education by:**
  - revising educational materials to include and highlight diverse female role models, and encourage girls to pursue any path they choose
  - ensure gender parity in the award of government scholarships

- in conjunction with tertiary institutions, establish clear quotas for courses with historically low female enrolment, to ensure a more balanced and diverse future workforce across all professions
- **accelerate efforts to empower women in the workforce by:**
  - enforcing existing regulations on maternity leave to ensure women in both private, public, and informal sectors receive their full entitlements
  - ensuring that existing sexual harassment laws are enforced, to make the workplace a safe place for all
  - prioritising, in partnership with the private sector, the establishment of daycare centres near workplaces, including marketplaces, enabling mothers to seamlessly re- enter the workforce
  - incentivising private participation and investment in the training and certification of childcare workers, and
  - ensuring public spaces and workplaces have clean washrooms equipped with facilities to ensure proper sanitary towel disposal, promoting hygiene and the well- being of all
- **secure women's land rights both in agricultural and other economic activities by reaffirming** our commitment to the effective implementation of the Land Act 2020, focusing on women's land access, including:
  - passing the LI for the Land Act 2020
  - promotion of joint registration and shared ownership of conjugal family lands
  - providing targeted support to women farmers, including access to incentives
- **mainstream the participation of women in the economy and access to financial services through public financing and support programmes**, by further strengthening existing government initiatives that have successfully boosted women's engagement in the economy

- **implement a Women's Trade Empowerment Fund (WoTEF)** that will provide loans and grants to women in business
- **further improve the maternal health programme**
- **commit to gender-mainstreaming in annual budgets, and**
- **continue work aimed at ending violence and harmful traditional practices**, as well as protecting the constitutional rights of all citizens, including women

## Children

The next NPP administration under a Bawumia presidency will:

- **streamline and consolidate existing children's committees at the District and Regional levels (education, health, and social protection) into a single, unified committee consisting of all stakeholders**, to improve coordination on child welfare efforts and ensure seamless advocacy for and protection of children's rights
- **to promote the role of children in contributing to the wellbeing of their communities and foster a generation of responsible leaders**, implement community-led, structured nationalism and mentorship programmes to instil a sense of national pride and identity in young people
- **ensure strict implementation and enforcement of interventions protecting children from hazardous work** in fulfilment of constitutional requirements
- **implement a comprehensive Digital Child Protection and Tracking System**, linking children's databases with education, health and protective databases, to prevent child trafficking, streetism and abuse, and to promote access to the rights and services they are entitled to. In particular, the system will:
  - ensure that all children of school-going age are enrolled in school in fulfilment and enforcement of compulsory education, in partnership with Metropolitan, Municipal and District assemblies (MMDAs), and through the integration of Births and Deaths Registry and National Identification Authority database

- **ensure the rights and safety of porters (Kayayei)**
- **intensify the transitional Kayayei Empowerment Programme**, aimed at providing employable skills training for them for a brighter future
- **continue to raise public awareness** about the dangers of child trafficking and child abuse and how to identify victims
- **publish a register of those convicted of offences against children**
- **manage children’s parks, school premises, and zone other public spaces in such a way as to uphold the child’s right to safe and accessible spaces** to play, learn, and socialise within their communities, and
- **to empower our students for successful futures, all secondary schools will establish career guidance and counselling units**, and embed same into teacher training programmes, enriching the “guidance and counselling” curriculum to prepare teachers to effectively mentor students in their career journeys

## **7.4. PROTECT THE ELDERLY AND ENSURE SUSTAINABLE, SECURED PENSIONS**

The next NPP administration will continue to develop and implement policies that prioritise creating an active, autonomous, and participatory life for older adults, aiming to make ageing a more positive experience, as well as ensure they have sustainable and secured pensions.

In pursuit of these objectives, a Bawumia presidency will:

- **work with Parliament to pass an Ageing Act** to provide an expanded legal framework for the care and protection of the aged
- **encourage healthcare institutions and vocational schools to offer training programmes in geriatric care**, to address the growing need for elder care, consistent with our plan to issue policy guidelines for the establishment of homecare, nursing

homes and rehabilitation services which includes a caregivers' support policy

- **work with regulators and Labour** to enable workers, including teachers, nurses and civil servants, exercise the option to utilise pensions as collateral to secure mortgage facilities, and
- **enact the necessary legislation to enable retirees purchase or sell annuities for liquidity and support pension income**, and to also grow the insurance industry

## 7.5. SUPPORT TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITY AND SPECIAL NEEDS

The NPP is committed to continuing its cross-sectoral policies that promote inclusion by further improving access to critical services for Persons With Disability (PWD), including services for special needs citizens, mobility access, special education and training programmes.

We have demonstrated this commitment by:

- **establishing the legal framework for the National Council on Persons with Disability as a public service agency**
- **under the Ghana Digital Acceleration project**, approving resources for the ease of identification of PWDs through the National Identification Card
- **increasing the allocation of District Assemblies Common Fund for PWDs from 2% to 3%** to foster community-based development, and streamline transfers to ensure effective utilisation
- **implementing a capitation grant for Special Needs Schools**, and
- **implementing reliefs for public sector PWD staff**, including disability allowance, transport and guide allowance, and tax relief, all of which are at various stages of implementation.

To further improve the welfare of Ghanaians living with disability, a Bawumia presidency will:

### 7.5.1. General Support and Services

- **remedy the shortcomings of the current Disability Act with the proposed Persons with Disability Bill**, by ensuring, when the new Act is passed, alignment with and enforcement of the rights outlined in the 1992 Constitution, and relevant Ghanaian and international laws and treaties
- **further strengthen disability inclusion by elevating the National Council on Persons with Disability to an Authority** with regional and district offices to lead the implementation of the proposed Persons with Disability Bill
- **continue the project on disaggregating data on PWDs** for ease of access to resources and interventions
- **tax exempt assistive technology** and devices for PWDs
- **continue to support businesses and enterprises** owned by PWDs.
- **set quotas for recruitment of PWDs for public sector recruitment**
- **provide incentives for employers who hire PWDs**
- **strictly enforce the provision** in the Persons with Disability Act **which requires disability-friendly access to all public buildings**
- **work with the Ghana Health Service** to ensure early detection, timely intervention and support in early childhood
- **extend NHIA coverage to cover special needs** for persons with albinism
- **continue with, and increase the capitation grant** to Special Needs Schools
- **ensure clear and accessible communication of health policies addressing the specific needs**, and reasonable hospital accommodation for people with disabilities, promoting strict compliance, and
- **make available accessible public transportation options for people with disabilities** in partnership with private transport unions

### 7.5.2. Special Needs Education and Training Programmes

We will continue to prioritise inclusive education by allocating the needed resources towards:

- **recruiting 1,000 special needs teachers**, and retrain teachers on how to work with special needs students
- **training more speech, language, occupational and behavioural therapists, as well as educational psychologists**
- **providing mandatory initial teacher education** as well as continuous professional development for educators on supporting children with disabilities
- **ensuring access to different educational opportunities**, including TVET and STEM, for students with disabilities
- **ensuring user-friendly services** through universal design in school infrastructure
- **upgrading the National Assessment Centre for Students to diagnose learners early**, and provide them with the necessary learning support
- **introducing a Free Tertiary Education Scholarship specifically tailored for PWDs** to remove financial barriers to pursuing higher educational goals, and
- **establishing a DiverseAbility Training Subsidy Programme** to provide subsidised training opportunities to PWDs to enhance career prospects and inclusion in the workforce

## 7.6. ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND REHABILITATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR GHANAIS WHO CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY

The NPP has traditionally been the party of the rule of law and protection of the rights and liberties of every Ghanaian. To further give full meaning to the “equality before the law” principle, we will

continue enhancing access to justice and rehabilitation opportunities for Ghanaians who cannot afford to pay:

- **on access to justice:**
  - ensuring the full operationalisation of Article 294 and the Legal Aid Commission Act, 2018 (Act 977), to provide effective legal aid to Ghanaians who cannot afford to pay
  - collaborating with the General Legal Council to train and certify Legal Aid Practitioners to offer legal, paralegal and alternative dispute resolution services as required under Act 977
  - resourcing the Legal Aid Commission to hire 600 full-time lawyers as public defenders, to provide legal services across the country to indigent Ghanaians
  - instituting a Volunteer Programme of retired lawyers and judges to support the public defenders as consultants on specific cases
  - incentivising private legal practitioners and firms to establish pro bono divisions to offer services to Ghanaians charged with crimes and who cannot afford to pay, and
  - fully resourcing the Commission's legal work
- **on access to rehabilitation opportunities:**
  - establish a **Prison-to-Work Re-Entry Programme** in collaboration with the Ghana Prisons Service, the Complementary Education Agency, the Ghana TVET Service, and the Ghana Enterprises Agency, to provide skills training across the country especially to repeat offenders, as part of a strategy to reduce recidivism, and
  - expand and improve prison schools in collaboration with the Ghana Education Service and the Ghana TVET Service, offering multiple learning pathways that lead to continuing education and career options post-release







## 8. OPERATE A LEAN GOVERNMENT, ENSURE GOOD GOVERNANCE AND COMBAT CORRUPTION

*“My government will mean what it says, live above reproach, and put citizens’ welfare, the security and prosperity of the nation at the centre of governance always.”*

### **Mahamudu Bawumia**

Under a Bawumia presidency, we will, where required, undertake constitutional reviews and amendments, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to:

- **operate a lean government** by reducing the footprint and size of government, and working towards capping the size of the Legislature
- **ensure good governance** by pursuing key constitutional reforms and strengthening the administration of justice, reforming and strengthening local government, and building consensus on long-term national development planning, and
- **combat corruption** by leveraging digitalisation to improve the efficiency of public sector service delivery, working towards a cashless economy, and improving transparency and accountability in procurement; and strengthening anti-corruption legislation, and promoting transparency in official activities of public officials.

## **8.1. OPERATE A LEAN GOVERNMENT**

A Bawumia presidency will operate a lean government by reducing the size and footprint of government, and working towards capping the size of the Legislature.

### **8.1.1. Reduce the Footprint of Government**

Most successful economies have one unique characteristic: central government staying out of the way and unleashing the energies of the private sector to power growth and development, enabling government to focus on regulation and enforcement, the most essential services, and protecting citizens. In line with this, our strategy for reducing the footprint of government will include the merging and consolidation of entities, programmes and funds to better administer and optimise spend.

### 8.1.2. Downsizing Government

To achieve this objective, we will cap Ministerial appointments to 50 and commit to working with not more than 50 Ministers of State.

### 8.1.3. Cap the Size of The Legislature

We will amend the relevant Acts and regulations to delink the creation of Districts from Constituencies, to end the automatic increases in the size of Parliament following the creation of new Districts.

## 8.2. ENSURING GOOD GOVERNANCE

Good governance involves accountability, transparency, openness, governance free from corruption and patronage, and fair administration of justice. It also requires achieving broad consensus on key provisions of the constitution that require amendment in order to best serve the interests of Ghanaians and the state.

Under a Bawumia presidency, we will, in partnership with all key stakeholders, pursue constitutional reforms, strengthen the administration of justice, reform and strengthen local governance, and build consensus on long-term national development planning.

### 8.2.1. Undertake Constitutional Reforms and Strengthen Administration of Justice

The Legislature, and Judiciary, continue to remain bulwarks of our democracy since the Fourth Republic. It is necessary therefore that we carry out periodic reforms, and continue to equip them with the necessary tools, as well as adequate facilities and resources essential for continuity in the deepening of democracy and in the administration of justice.

Among other reforms, we will:

- **modernise and improve upon the e-Justice system, and other innovative initiatives, to make justice truly accessible by:**
  - re-tooling courts and fully implementing the e-Justice system
  - digitising all court processes and records

## 8. OPERATE A LEAN GOVERNMENT, ENSURE GOOD GOVERNANCE AND COMBAT CORRUPTION

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- enabling direct transcription systems in the courts
- digitising and centrally managing court registries, and
- setting up child-friendly and gender-based violence courts, equipped with systems that separates victims from offenders during trial
- **establish permanent Virtual Courts by providing the necessary technological and infrastructural framework** to ensure virtual proceedings become a core part of the administration of justice in Ghana
- **expand court-connected Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) practitioners**, and provide them with adequate training and remuneration
- **to promote Continuous Legal and Professional Training for Judicial Service staff**, equip the Judicial Service, through a modern judicial training institute, to train all staff, especially those without legal background, in paralegal and other relevant courses
- **increase the budget to the Judiciary to further enhance the financial independence and autonomy of the Judiciary**
- **improve the overall physical infrastructure of the Judiciary by:**
  - fully implementing a secure archiving centre for preservation of records of the courts
  - providing stable solar power supply to all courts
  - renovating residential accommodation for judges and staff, and
  - providing access to the physically disabled, screen readers and sign language interpreters and other disability-friendly aids to enable inclusion of vulnerable groups in justice delivery
- **undertake a comprehensive review of professional legal education towards the conversion of the Ghana School of Law into a pure examination body, that is, into a Council for Professional Legal Education**, with the mandate to regulate, accredit, undertake curriculum development, provide continuous

Professional Legal Education and serve as a Bar Examination Centre to administer a standardised Bar Examination in Ghana for purposes of Call to the Bar

- **provide other specialised legal training as well as paralegal training** to serve industry and other key stakeholders in the legal education sector
- **in collaboration with Parliament, and with reference to Article 124(5) of the Constitution, establish a Parliamentary Council, or Commission**, to ensure the efficient and effective performance of the functions of Parliament, and
- initiate a process of reforms with emphasis, among others, on Ex-Gratia and the election of MMDCEs

### **8.2.2. Reform and Strengthen Local Governance**

In addition to strengthening the fiscal and accountable capacities of local governments, to ensure MMDAs become effective vehicles for resilient economic growth and development, we will also, as part of ensuring good governance:

- **review and restructure MMDAs for effectiveness**

Since 2017, the NPP administration has brought governance and service delivery even closer to the people through the creation of six (6) additional regions, several District and Municipal assemblies, as well as upgrading selected MMDAs to enable them deliver on their mandate in accordance with the Constitution and the Local Governance Act, 2016. The geographical contiguity and population of some MMDAs have since increased beyond the required boundaries and threshold, while the economic viability of others have either reduced, improved or expanded in potential.

To ensure the continuous relevance of MMDAs to bring development and governance closer to the people, the next NPP administration will:

- fully operationalise the Sub-Metropolitan/District Council system to improve local governance
- fully implement the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 2020 (ACT 1027) to decentralise its operations to bring

acquisition of birth and death certificates closer to the people, and

- integrate the current decentralisation of the passport acquisition process into the local government system, by ensuring that Regional and District offices have facilities for passport processing

- **introduce an Electoral Area Share of the Common Fund (EASCF) for Assembly Members** to complement and operate together in the same form and manner as the current Constituency Share (MPs' share) of the DACF, to assist Assembly and Unit Committee Members in local level participatory initiatives, and micro community projects that use local artisans, communal labour, and local materials, and

- **continue to expand our District Road Improvement Programme (DRIP) to resource Assemblies with construction equipment**, to enable them maintain roads, and carry out necessary repair works in their respective jurisdictions

- **Election of MMDCEs**

The current process of appointing MMDCEs by incumbent governments, instead of direct and popular election by citizens, undermines the principles of democratic local governance and leads to less accountability and depressed local economic development. In 2017, the NPP administration started a process to amend articles 55(3), 243 and 244 of the 1992 Constitution to allow political parties to sponsor candidates to District Assemblies or lower local government units' elections, and to enable citizens (who are already involved in the election of their Assembly and Unit Committee members) to also directly elect their MMDCEs. However, the process was stalled in December 2019 due to challenges in finalising consensus on the issue.

The next NPP administration, under a Bawumia presidency, believing in deepening local democracy in Ghana to complement the progress made at our national level democracy, will revisit the process by renewing consultation and finalising the required consensus with stakeholders, including with Political Parties, Chiefs and the chieftaincy institutions, Faith Based

Organizations (FBOs), CSOs, and other organised groups, to restart the process to elect MMDCEs.

### **8.2.3. Build Consensus on Long-Term National Development Planning**

The NPP believes that we can find consensus on broad areas to form the core of a national development plan, including in education, health, industrialisation, and the environment. This is to ensure stability and provide continuity of governmental activities and projects for the overall development of Ghana, regardless of the party in power.

In pursuit of building this consensus, the next NPP administration, under a Bawumia presidency will:

- **propose the amendment of Articles 86 and 87 of the 1992 Constitution, as well as the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) Act (Act 479), to:**
  - mandate political party manifestoes, and consequently the economic and social policies of governments, as well as budgets, to be aligned to the agreed-on broad contours in specific sectors, and
  - ensure broader representation on the NDPC, including registered political parties with representation in Parliament or securing not less than 10 per cent of total votes in a previous election, representatives of Chiefs, CSOs, FBOs, and professional associations, and
- **amend Article 36 (5) of the Constitution** to ensure that Presidents submit their Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies to Parliament within a year, instead of two, of coming into office

## **8.3. COMBAT CORRUPTION**

Since 2017, The Nana Akufo-Addo led administration has implemented far-reaching policies, legislations and significantly increased resource allocation to fight corruption, including:

- enacting the Right to Information Act, 2019 (Act 989)
- enacting the Witness Protection Act, 2018 (Act 975)
- enacting the Criminal Offences (Amendment) Act, 2020 (Act 1034)
- enacting the Anti-Money Laundering Act, 2020 (Act 1044)
- rolling out the Ghana.Gov Platform
- increasing budgetary allocations to the Police (162%), the Audit Service (83%) and CHRAJ (21%) at the end of 2021, compared to 2016
- set up an Office of Special Prosecutor by enacting the Office of Special Prosecutor Act, 2017 (Act 959)
- instituting a Value-For-Money assessment regime for single-sourced and restricted tender applications, which has resulted in GH¢2.3 billion savings between 2019 and 2021, and
- implementing the Public Financial Management Act

A Bawumia presidency will continue with these efforts, to leverage digitalisation to improve the efficiency of public sector service delivery, work towards a cashless economy, and improve transparency and accountability in public sector procurement, as well as deal with the abuse of political office and power by strengthening anti-corruption legislation and promoting transparency in the activities of public officials.

### **8.3.1. Leveraging Digitalisation**

#### **8.3.1.1. Improve the Efficiency of Public Sector Service Delivery**

Our overall objective is to use digital tools to significantly reduce opportunities and incentives for corrupt conduct in the public service, both by Executive appointees and Civil Servants. The next NPP administration believes we can achieve this by implementing transparent, shared government digital services, a fully integrated digital government that enhances connectivity, increases efficiency, ensures that public services are easily and readily accessible to all citizens with increased accountability, and consequently reduce opportunities for corruption.

To achieve these broad objectives, a Bawumia presidency will **implement a Government Digital Framework and Infrastructure** that delivers automated government services in a secure and private way by:

- **fully implementing and deploying a digital Platform** to transform the way civil servants work
- **adopting a whole-of-government approach** to deploying government digital services to save cost, speed up implementation time, and avoid duplication of efforts
- **implementing a whole-of-government data classification system** based on the National Data Governance Framework, and in alignment with the e-Government Interoperability Framework (E- GIF), the Ghana Statistical Services Act, 2019 (Act 1003) and the Right to Information Act, 2019 (Act 989)
- **adopting the Once-Only Principle**, where citizens and businesses provide information only once, and that information is reused across various government services and agencies as needed, and
- **implementing blockchain technology and smart contracts** for secure data exchange and transparent e-government services.

### 8.3.1.2. Work Towards a Cashless Economy

Adoption and operationalisation of the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), or e-Cedi, will remain an essential item in our digital toolbox to reduce opportunities and incentives for corrupt conduct:

- **we will promote the use of e-Cedi while also ensuring privacy protections. The e-Cedi, through traceability**, will provide transparency, reduce the incidence of fraud, tax avoidance and money laundering, all of which are precursors to, or defining characteristics of, corruption
- **deepen the use of digital financial services**, building on the success of Mobile Money Interoperability and the 100% financial inclusion achieved

- **promote full digital payments for all transactions** by facilitating seamless electronic transactions, promoting digital inclusion, and supporting the growth of our digital economy and state, and
- **launching a Ghana Universal Digital (GUD) Wallet (“Sovereign Wallet”)** to facilitate social protection transfers. This will contribute to reducing fraud in benefit schemes

### 8.3.2. Improve Transparency and Accountability in Procurement

To improve procurement transparency and accountability, a Bawumia presidency will:

- **fully integrate the national electronic procurement platform,** Ghana Electronic Procurement System (GHANEPS) into the systems of the Office of the Registrar of Companies (ORC), Social Security and National Trust (SSNIT) and the Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA), as originally planned, to ascertain the eligibility and qualification of a tenderer as provided in Section 22 (b, c and d) of the Procurement Act
- **fully integrate GHANEPS into the Ghana Integrated Financial Management Information System (GIFMIS),** to help with commitment control and arrears reduction
- **establish an e-Marketplace for Public Procurement, similar to Korea’s On-line E-Procurement System (KONEPS),** which will increase competition and reduce cost and prices of items being procured by government
- **ensure collaboration between the Authority and relevant regulatory bodies to standardise the specifications of selected items procured for official use,** example being development of websites, purchase of computers and related hardware, and vehicles, to reduce the sometimes very wide variation in prices between quotes to different MDAs, and
- **review Section 87 of the Public Procurement Act to stipulate a maximum variation in contract prices,** to prevent the sometimes large and arbitrary variations well above original contract sums, especially in the roads and construction sectors.

### 8.3.3. Deal With Abuse of Political Office and Power

The next NPP administration is committed to fully addressing the potential abuse of political office and power in furtherance of corrupt conduct. The general thrust of our strategy is to expand the list of officeholders whose conduct should be the subject of public scrutiny, to further tighten the administrative and legislative framework and tools for dealing with corrupt conduct, and to improve transparency in relation to the official activities of public officials.

Broadly, over the next four years, we will work towards mainstreaming lifestyle audits by consolidating all existing anti-corruption legislation into an omnibus Act, and reforming key anti-corruption agencies to strengthen their capacity to execute their mandate.

In view of this, under a Bawumia presidency, we will:

- **enact a Corrupt Practices Act** to consolidate all anti-corruption and corruption-related legislation and offences that are currently scattered across several pieces of legislation, into an omnibus body of provisions, offering anti-corruption institutions a harmonised reference point to draw their mandate
- **continue the process of restructuring the public sector Internal Audit function**, to promote procedural accountability and prevent waste and corruption
- **review Article 286 of the Constitution**, and relevant legislation on assets and liabilities declaration to:
  - expand Asset Declarations by public office holders to include, among others, senior staff and heads of regulatory and public institutions not previously covered, and
  - require asset declarations to be made, or updated, every two years, instead of every four years
- **place limits on foreign official travel by Ministers, CEOs, and Senior Civil Servants**, as well as annually publish official travels undertaken, and
- **annually publish the list of all beneficiaries of public scholarships.**







## 9. DEEPEN MEDIA SUPPORT TO ADVANCE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

## 9. DEEPEN MEDIA SUPPORT TO ADVANCE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

Recognising the vital role of the media in promoting democratic governance and economic development, and in preventing disinformation in the digital age, in line with our philosophy and reaffirming our commitment to upholding the fundamental right to free speech, media freedoms, and expanding the frontiers of individual rights, we will:

- **pass and fully implement the Broadcasting Bill, if not done before the final session of Parliament this year**, to better safeguard media freedoms and pluralism
- **further resource the Media Capacity Enhancement Programme (MCEP)** to continue enhancing the knowledge and skills of journalists
- **continue to implement the Coordinated Mechanism for the Safety of Journalists (CMSJ)**
- **strengthen public media**, including GBC, GNA, community radio, and other public media institutions, to promote diverse perspectives and voices
- **modernise and retool the Information Services Department** to enhance its effectiveness
- **better resource the National Media Commission** to execute its mandate
- **enhance access to information by facilitating Right to Information (RTI) requests by media practitioners and citizens** who cannot afford to access information
- **preserve our heritage** by working with tourism, creative arts, and heritage stakeholders to embark on a massive archival project to protect our historic films and documents, and
- **harmonise public relations at all Ministries, Departments, and Agencies** to promote effective communication





# PART IV

## SOLVING SELECTED SECTORAL ISSUES







## 10. SOLUTIONS FOR SECTORAL ISSUES

## 10.1. EDUCATION AND HEALTH

The NPP believes that investing in the Education and Health of the citizens is a non-negotiable responsibility of the state. It is fundamental to building the human resources of a nation. This belief has been demonstrated in the significant investments we have made over the years, including, the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) and Free SHS/TVET policy, benefitting millions of Ghanaians.

Under the next NPP administration, we will accelerate these investments to prepare our people for the changing world of work, and the challenges posed by global health emergencies, such as the CoVID-19 pandemic, while also providing the basic care to live happy, fulfilling lives.

### 10.1.1. Education

Under the Akufo-Addo-led administration, Ghana has been an exemplar in Africa in investing massively and expanding access to quality education to our children. Over the past eight years, the NPP expanded access to education across the entire education lifecycle, from kindergarten to tertiary education.

Some of our achievements, among others, include:

- **Early years and primary education:**
  - **reading comprehension** among Primary 2 learners in public schools rose from 18% in 2016 to 38% in 2023
  - **introduced robust policies and frameworks** such as the 2018 National Pre-Tertiary Curriculum Framework, the Standard-based Curriculum, the National Education Strategic Plan 2018-2030, the Early Childhood Education Framework, and the National Pre-Tertiary Learning Assessment Framework
  - **significantly increased the number of classrooms and ancillary infrastructure** to support foundational learning

- **Secondary education level:**
  - **implemented Free SHS/TVET with an increase in enrolment from 813,448 in 2016/17 to 1.48 million in 2023/24**, an increase of 83% over the period. 2023 recorded the highest-ever first-year enrolment in Free SHS/TVET of around 554,034 students, highlighted by a remarkable 95% enrolment rate in the Northern Regions. The students' performance at WASSCE is also the best in the history of the examination, and have also achieved gender parity
  - **initiated the Ghana Apprenticeship for All Programme (GAAP)** to enhance TVET education, with practical on-the-job training that enhances job skills, boosts productivity, cuts unemployment, spurs job creation, and catalyses socio-economic development, and
  - **realigned all Technical and Vocational Institutions (TVIs), which were previously scattered across various ministries, under the Ministry of Education (MOE)**. To oversee their governance, we established the Ghana Technical and Vocational Education & Training Service (Ghana TVET Service). Additionally, we merged the Council for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (COTVET) with the National Board for Professional and Technician Examinations (NABPTEx) to form the Commission on TVET. This new entity now serves as the sole regulator for the entire TVET sector, ensuring more efficient governance and comprehensive oversight of technical and vocational education nationwide
- **Tertiary education:**
  - **successfully transitioned (upgraded) Teacher Training Colleges** to Tertiary Institutions (University Colleges)
  - **restored the abolished Teacher Trainee Allowances**, resulting in the dramatic increased enrolment in the Public Colleges of Education from 44,813 pre-2017, to 72,258 and 69,704 in the 2021/2022, and 2022/2023 academic years, respectively



- **created the Ghana Tertiary Education Commission (GTEC)** as the single apex body for the regulation, development, and policy oversight of tertiary education institutions
- **created and resourced 6 universities, one of which is currently under construction, including:**
  - » CK Tadam University of Technology and Applied Sciences
  - » Simon Diedong Dombo University of Business and Integrated Development Studies
  - » University of Energy and Sustainable Development
  - » University of Media, Arts and Communications
  - » Akenten Appiah-Menka University of Skills Training and Entrepreneurial Development, and
  - » University of Engineering and Agricultural Sciences (Currently under construction)
- **introduced a Pre-Engineering Programme for non-science graduates of High Schools**, and upgraded selected Colleges of Education into Colleges of Applied Arts, Science and Technology
- **piloted a Centralised Applications Processing Service (CAPS)** to manage university applications and admissions, which is expected to be ready for rollout in the 2024/2025 Academic year
- **significantly resourced the 10 Polytechnics converted to Technical Universities** with state-of-the-art equipment for workshops, to enhance the practical skills training of students
- **increased the number of Africa Centres of Excellence for Development Impact (ACE Impact) from three (3) hosted by two public universities before 2017, to nine (9) centres hosted five by (5) Universities, including:**
  - » KNUST College of Engineering ACE Project (KEEP), Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)

- » Africa Centre of Excellence in Coastal Resilience (ACECOR), University of Cape Coast, Ghana (UCC)
- » West African Center for Water, Irrigation and Sustainable Agriculture (WACWISA), University for Development Studies (UDS)
- » Regional Center for Energy and Environmental Sustainability (RCEES), University Energy and Natural Resources (UENR)
- » West African Genetic Medicine Centre (WAGMC), University of Ghana (UoG)
- » Regional Transport Research and Education Centre (TRECK), Kumasi Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), and
- » together, over US\$80 million have been invested in the Centres, which have significantly upgraded their postgraduate training and research infrastructure to world class standards

- **Complementary education and lifelong learning:**

- **reduced the number of out-of-school children** and reintegrated over 17,000 children into formal education systems since 2017
- **enhanced the Functional Literacy Education (FLE) Programme**, and the Occupational Skills Development (OSD) Programme, to reduce illiteracy among youth and adults, and ensure they acquire employable skills for gainful employment and lifelong learning
- **provided 72,000 out-of-school children access to complementary education**, and transitioned them into formal school, and

- **Education financing and infrastructure:**

- Since 2017, we have nearly tripled our annual education sector spending from GH¢6.9 billion to GH¢18.5 billion in 2023. Cumulatively, the Akufo-Addo led government has spent about GH¢129 billion as at 2023.



- **consistently fed over 4 million children** in the early years and primary schools under the Ghana School Feeding Programme
- **increased access for 5.7 million young people to secondary education** through the flagship Free SHS/ TVET policy, many of whom would otherwise have had their dreams curtailed
- **procured 900,000 tablets for distribution, which is ongoing**, to all secondary school students, and
- **distributed 2,718 vehicles** to various agencies under the Ministry of Education, helping to improve access and reduce inequalities in education

The next NPP administration, under a Bawumia presidency, will focus further on the removal of barriers to education at all levels. We believe that education must be about giving every Ghanaian child a just beginning in life, and opportunities for lifelong learning, especially the opportunities arising from the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Our broad policy objectives, therefore, will revolve around five (5) key pillars as follows:

- **Pillar 1 (Early Years & Primary):** values-based, inclusive, and functional early years and primary education that supports foundational literacy and numeracy
- **Pillar 2 (Secondary and TVET):** well-prepared secondary education graduates for stable careers and further education
- **Pillar 3 (Tertiary):** prepare higher education graduates for the evolving labour market
- **Pillar 4 (Complementary Education & Lifelong learning):** reduce school dropout rates and increase employable skills for out-of-school youth and adults, and
- **Pillar 5 (Education Financing & Infrastructure):** provide sufficient and equitable financing and infrastructure

### 10.1.1.1. Pillar 1: A Values-Based, Inclusive and Functional Early Education

In 2016, reading comprehension among Primary 2 learners in public schools stood at 18%. By 2023, through rigorous reforms and targeted interventions, it went up, to 38%, as evidenced by the National Standardised Test (NST) results. This significant improvement is attributed to the introduction of robust policies and frameworks such as the 2018 National Pre-Tertiary Curriculum Framework, the Standard-based Curriculum, the National Education Strategic Plan 2018-2030, the Early Childhood Education Framework of 2020, and the National Pre-tertiary Learning Assessment Framework.

Despite these achievements, Ghanaian learners still face challenges in character development and functional literacy and numeracy skills.

The next NPP administration is determined to maintain an inclusive and functional early and primary education system despite these challenges. We will therefore, to foster character development, literacy, and numeracy skills, and to ensure that learners acquire a broader understanding of the world and contribute to the fulfilment of the UN Sustainable Development Goal 4:

- **revamp schools in underserved communities and renovate kindergartens (KGs) and primary schools** to make them conducive, accessible, and inclusive. This enables us prioritise the safety and well-being of learners by revamping dilapidated schools
- **upscale play-based learning in all KGs** to enhance and promote holistic child development, and create a more enjoyable learning experience for learners
- **provide special incentives to teachers in KGs and primary schools, to attract high-performing teachers**, prioritising early promotions for teachers posted to rural areas
- **prioritise ongoing professional development** for early years and primary teachers

- **leverage Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)** to ensure private-sector participation in education management of low performing public early years and primary schools
- **incentivise the training of teachers of local languages as well as of French, Arabic and others to enhance their knowledge and skills**
- **scale up the establishment of technology hubs in schools**
- **fully implement the School Safeguarding Policy** in line with our vision of providing a conducive environment for teaching and learning
- **prioritise the Special Education Needs (SEN) of our learners** by offering professional development opportunities to early years and primary teachers to be able to manage special learners
- **continue the digitally enabled improvements of the School Feeding Programme**
- **enhance the capacity of school leadership and management by streamlining the appointment of early years and primary headteachers**, to avoid the numerous complaints of nepotism and favouritism, including establishing Standards for Headship in early and primary schools through the National Teaching Council, with their certification as the only license to be considered for appointing a primary headteacher, and
- **ensure Compulsory Early Years and Primary Education** by partnering **MMDAs**, Births and Deaths Registry, and National Identification Authority to ensure that all children of school-going age are enrolled in school

### 10.1.1.2. Pillar 2: Well-Prepared Secondary Graduates for Stable Career and Further Education

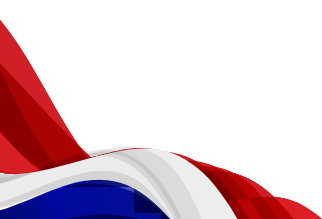
Over the past eight years, the Akufo-Addo-led administration has spearheaded significant transformation in secondary education in Ghana, democratising access to Senior High Schools, improving technical and vocational training, and ensuring that every student can pursue quality education. Furthermore, our targeted initiatives in teacher education and continuous professional development have raised the standard of teaching, enriching the classroom

experience significantly. These investments have resulted in 70% of students earning A1-C6 grades in key WASSCE subjects in 2023 - the best performance in the history of the examination. Indeed, our students stood out among West African nations, with 411 out of 465 candidates scoring straight A1s across all subjects in the West African Senior School Certificate Examination in 2020. We also launched the Ghana Apprenticeship for All Program (GAAP), with practical on-the-job training that enhances job skills.

The NPP recognises that there is still more to be accomplished in secondary education, and will, under president Bawumia:

- **protect and enhance the Free Secondary Education policy, with a strong emphasis on TVET and STEM under which we will:**
  - continue to fully fund the Free SHS/TVET policy
  - leverage improved infrastructure towards phasing out the double track, and harmonise the academic calendar across secondary schools
  - promote school farms to ensure sustainable food supply to the schools, and
  - deploy solar-powered systems for secondary schools to reduce the cost of utilities, and to reduce our carbon footprint
- **implement a new national placement assessment system** to transition learners between Junior High and Senior High schools
- **establish career guidance and counselling units to empower our students for successful futures.** This initiative will also be embedded in teacher training programmes, enriching the “guidance and counselling” curriculum, to prepare teachers to effectively mentor students in their career journeys
- **strengthen inter-schools talent and soft skills competitions,** while encouraging extra-curricular activities, laying a solid foundation for career readiness and lifelong learning
- **continuously support the teacher to equip learners with knowledge, skills, and values,** and to prepare them for career choices and further education by:

- **ensuring the full implementation of the Comprehensive Teacher Policy**, in consultation with the Teacher Unions and all stakeholders in education, including improved conditions of service, and
- **prioritising study leave with pay for all teachers posted to rural and underserved areas** after serving the mandatory three-year period of service, as well as include transport and accommodation allowance in their conditions of service
- **continue to invest in secondary education by:**
  - **upgrading existing JHS** with good classrooms, workshops, science laboratories, libraries, ICT laboratories and recreational facilities
  - **accelerating efforts to progressively complete all on-going and existing projects** to improve access to education
  - **providing textbooks, workbooks, and digital infrastructure** to support modern teaching and learning
  - **modernising secondary school infrastructure**, including the 28 Special Schools, to meet secondary education standards, and,
  - Construct 16 model Senior High Schools for our zongo communities in the 16 regions
- **commit fully to the implementation of the new (Junior High and Senior High) school education curricular by, among others:**
  - strengthening the implementation of the new Junior High and Senior High school curriculum for practicing teachers
  - ensuring that Critical Thinking, Creativity and Growth Mindset skills, which are core to the new secondary curriculum, are effectively implemented, and
  - reviewing and implementing fully the national Learning Assessment framework for secondary education, including tracking of students' academic progression



- **ensure sustainable governance and leadership in schools by:**
  - empowering the National Teaching Council to set professional Standards for Headship, provide certification of new heads of schools for appointment, and for those who are already headmasters, use their accredited workshops and certifications to improve their school leadership skills
  - strengthening the School Management Committees (SMCs) to assist Junior High school heads
  - involving and collaborating with FBOs for effective values training and school management, and
  - strengthening secondary school inspection and compliance regime to ensure improved standards in our secondary schools

### **10.1.1.3. Pillar 3: Prepare Higher Education Graduates for the Evolving Labour Market**

The NPP is committed to creating an educational environment that equips higher education graduates with the skills, knowledge, and adaptability they need to succeed in a rapidly changing world. Since 2017, we have undertaken bold and unprecedented reforms within the higher education space, which have resulted in fundamental changes in policy, regulation, institutional mandates and governance as well as curriculum. Teacher Training Colleges, previously operating as pre-tertiary institutions, have successfully transitioned (upgraded) to Tertiary Institutions (University Colleges) in fulfilment of the requirement of the Colleges of Education Act, 2012 (Act 847) and our 2016 Manifesto. Others include the National Teacher's Standards (NTS) and the National Teacher Education Curriculum Framework (NTECF), which have provided the foundation for a complete overhaul of the pre-service teacher education system, replacing the Diploma in Basic Education (DBE) we introduced in 2007 with a Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.). Alongside these reforms, the government also restored the abolished Teacher Trainee Allowance

To further enhance academic rigour and relevance, promote vocational and technical training, support continuing education and lifelong learning, the next NPP administration, under a Bawumia presidency, will:

- **realign the structure and timing of the licensure exams and the academic calendar of University Colleges by:**
  - integrating the licensure examinations as part of the teacher training programme, with teachers qualifying with a “Qualified Teacher Status” (QTS), and
  - arranging to have the National Teaching Council open an additional examination window for individuals who do not pass their licensure exam at their teacher education institutions to retake it, with no limit on the number of attempts
- **work towards eradicating infrastructure, equipment and tools deficit in tertiary institutions** by ensuring the provision of laboratories, ICT centres and workshops in all tertiary institutions; partnering with the private sector to provide full coverage and availability of digital devices to all tertiary education institutions, and expand infrastructure at medical schools in our various public universities, to support an increase in admission for students for medical studies
- **implement in full the Centralised Applications Processing Service (CAPS)**, which is in pilot phase, for tertiary institutions at the undergraduate level
- **develop and implement a National Credit and Qualifications Framework to:**
  - mainstream Ghanaian qualifications rated by bodies such as GTEC, making them easier to understand and compare
  - facilitate international recognition and compliance with regional and global integration and mobility protocols, ensuring acceptability of Ghanaian tertiary qualifications abroad, and
  - promote mobility and portability of students and staff within tertiary institutions, with standardised classification of

qualifications, to enhance transparency and inspire trust and confidence in the qualifications

- **work towards meeting tertiary educational institution staffing requirements** to meet regulatory student-staff ratios
- **improve research impact linked to national development priorities** by fully implementing the Tertiary Education Policy to foster effective governance and management of tertiary institutions
- **establish an Open University**, and provide adequate funding to meet its objectives of Gross Tertiary Enrolment Ratio (GTER) target of 40% by the year 2030, and
- **those who, after completion of their tertiary education, have secured jobs would be exempted from national service**

#### **10.1.1.4. Pillar 4: Reduce School Dropout Rates and Increase Employable Skills**

In 2020, the government established the Complementary Education Agency (CEA) by enacting the CEA Act 2020 (Act 1055). This transformed the Non-Formal Department of the Ministry of Education into an agency. Through initiatives like the Complementary Basic Education (CBE) Programme, and the Ghana Education Outcomes Project (GEOP), we have successfully reduced the number of out-of-school children and reintegrated over 17,000 children into formal education systems since 2017. Additionally, the government has enhanced the Functional Literacy Education (FLE) and Occupational Skills Development (OSD) Programmes, aiming to reduce illiteracy among youth and adults, and ensuring they possess employable skills for gainful employment and lifelong learning.

The next NPP administration will consolidate these gains by identifying out-of-school children and streamlining efforts to integrate them into formal education systems. We will also equip youth and adults with employable skills and introduce new, innovative interventions such as the Prison-to-Work programme, to facilitate the re-entry of released individuals into society.

### 10.1.1.5. Pillar 5: Financing

Financing education has always been a priority of the NPP. Since 2017, we have nearly tripled our annual education sector spending from GH¢6.9 billion to GH¢18.5 billion in 2023. Cumulatively, the Akufo-Addo led government has spent about GH¢129 billion as at 2023.

Going forward, the next NPP administration intends to make more resources available for infrastructure development, educational workers financing schemes, and student financing.

We will, under a Bawumia presidency:

- **on infrastructure financing:**

In addition to leveraging the private sector for school and related infrastructure development, and the realignment of the capped GETFund to pool financing for infrastructure development:

- **increase the stock of student accommodation in our public universities and other public tertiary institutions** to address the housing deficit on our campuses, and make them affordable
- roll out a comprehensive School Infrastructure Information Management System (SIIMS) for all existing school infrastructure, from kindergarten to tertiary level, using existing datasets to expand on the limited system GETFund currently operates, and
- create a School Infrastructure Management Directorate (SIMaD) at the Ministry of Education to bring school infrastructure planning and development, and resource mobilisation, under one agency, and make it more responsive to education priorities

- **on student financing and scholarships:**

Student financing is currently scattered across multiple agencies, with the primary ones being the Student Loans Trust Fund (SLTF), Scholarship Secretariat, and GETFund's self-run scholarship administration scheme. Others include the GNPC Scholarship Scheme. To address some of the challenges in administering these

programmes, we have already removed the guarantor policy under the SLTF, doubling the number of recipients from 30,000 on average per year before its introduction, to 58,000 currently. We have kept our promise, and paid teacher and nursing trainee allowances since 2017, and, from 2017 to 2021, provided 132,283 scholarships to Ghanaians, of which 124,960 (95%) went to Ghana-based students as awards, thesis, and bursaries, and 7,423 (5%) international scholarships

Under our next government, we will:

- integrate scholarship databases across all the public sector institutions managing such schemes, to ensure full visibility, efficiency, and optimal deployment of scholarships to achieve strategic national manpower objectives
- expand eligibility for the student loan to include all postsecondary students, including those undertaking certificate and diploma programmes, consistent with the government's emphasis on TVET and STEM education. Currently, the Fund only covers those undertaking degree programmes, and
- annually publish in full, the list of scholarship beneficiaries
- **on financing programmes for teachers:**
  - introduce incentives for teachers to buy one vehicle each, with engine capacity of up to 1,800 cubic centimetres (cc)
  - collaborate with teachers and other education professional unions to take advantage of the housing opportunities under our Housing For All programme, and
  - recruit more teachers at all levels with improved conditions of service

### **10.1.2. Health**

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the unpredictable nature of public health emergencies. To ensure preparedness, countries must prioritise proactive health system strengthening. The NPP administration recognises this imperative and is seizing the

opportunity to enhance Ghana's health security infrastructure, focusing on prevention, promotion, threat detection, and resilience.

A core pillar of this plan is the integration of innovative technologies into healthcare delivery.

The next NPP administration will continue investments in health security infrastructure, including accelerated investments in telehealth, telemedicine, and digitalisation, to transform how Ghanaians access essential health services.

To achieve these objectives, and for a more robust and responsive healthcare system, a Bawumia presidency will, under:

### 10.1.2.1. Health Administration

- **Leadership and Governance**
  - **deepen Public-Private Partnership (PPP)** for healthcare delivery and management, and
  - **encourage PPP placement of key equipment**, such as diagnostic and imaging systems, and establishment of centres of excellence, within public institutions to help retool all hospitals
- **Healthcare Delivery and Pandemic Preparedness**
  - **General**
    - » ensure availability of all-hours, quality healthcare provision at the primary level, by scaling up of the Network of Practice (NoP), including Model Health Centres
    - » complete the ongoing Agenda 111 projects, to ensure that all Districts will have hospitals as primary referral centres
    - » complete all Regional Hospitals under Agenda 111, to serve as specialist referral centres for all new regions without Regional hospitals
    - » complete the maternity and children's block at Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital, and the Korle-Bu Teaching

Hospital maternity block, in addition to the ongoing sub-specialist centres within all teaching hospitals

- » establish new sub-specialist centres in Teaching Hospitals
  - » create a friendly environment for breastfeeding mothers (staff and clients) by ensuring that hospitals, workplaces, and other public places have rooms for breastfeeding to improve child survival
  - » strengthen the standards, quality and safety of care in healthcare facilities as well as ambulance services and care homes
  - » collaborate with Ghana Education Service to ensure the availability of functional sick bays appropriate for students' population in each, and, that nurses are present in all Senior High Schools, and
  - » conclude the Tissue and Organ Donation, Storage, and Transplantation Policy, pass a Law to regulate the service, and make these life-saving services available
- **Homecare Services: ensure the appropriate legal regime and policy guidelines for the establishment of homecare,** nursing homes and rehabilitation services including caregivers' support provisions
  - **Medical Tourism:** develop a policy to make Ghana a strategic Medical Tourism Hub in the region, through Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) where appropriate
  - **Blood Services Delivery:** the Ghana Blood Service do not have a centre in all the regions. The number of Voluntary Non-Remunerated Blood Donors (VNRBD) is very low, and the system to create incentives for increasing VNRBD needs to be improved. We will address this by:
    - » constructing blood centres in regions that do not have one
    - » abolishing blood processing fees, and

- » placing blood centres on a common, digitised platform, to ensure equitable distribution of blood and blood products in the country
- **Drone Delivery Services:** in addition to the existing 6, additional 2 sites will be established to cover Upper West and Savannah regions at Funsu and Kintampo, to ensure total nationwide coverage
- **National Ambulance Services**
  - » establish a regulatory body for ambulance services, to create an enabling environment for private sector participation
  - » include ambulance service reimbursement in the NHIA benefit package, and
  - » strengthen accident and emergency centres across the country through the Model Health Centres (MOC) and the Agenda 111 Project
- **Disease Prevention and Health Promotion**
  - » develop a National Health Security Policy, by reviewing and amending the current Public Health Act, 2012 (Act 851), to render it more fit for purpose
  - » operationalise the Infectious Disease Centres built across the country
  - » establish a toll-free National Call Centre, to provide health information and education, and
  - » expand the wellness clinic concept across the country to provide screening and health promotion, and enhance prevention, early identification, and treatment of diseases
- **National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA)**
  - amend the NHIA Act to establish a separate health insurance regulatory body
  - improve access to healthcare services by making available medical equipment, medicines, and other consumables, and

- ensure that health institutions (including religious health institutions) receive their NHIS payments promptly, and to pay existing debts expeditiously, by introducing automatic adjustment of reimbursement of the cost of medicines and services on a regular basis
- **Human Resource**
  - engage stakeholders to streamline the relationship between the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education on the training of medical students
  - expand scholarships for specialist training, to cover other healthcare professionals in Ghana
  - collaborate with the private health sector in the placement of healthcare staff
  - recruit more doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals with improved conditions of service
  - partner with real estate developers, including State Housing and TDC, to provide housing schemes for healthcare workers
  - enhance incentives for public health workers in rural/ deprived areas, or designated areas of need, and
  - introduce incentives for healthcare workers to buy one vehicle each, with engine capacity of up to 1,800 cubic centimetres (cc)
- **Medical Products, Technologies, and Vaccines**
  - **Medical Products and Technologies: under the Akufo-Addo led administration, Ghana** has become a leading pharmaceuticals production centre, with 15 pharmaceutical manufacturing companies currently supported under the Strategic Anchor Industries initiative. We will take advantage of the growing domestic market, and the AfCTA, to increase production by:
    - » establishing Ghana as the Regional hub for pharmaceutical production
    - » incentivising local manufacturing by establishing a pharmaceutical industry park (Ghana Pharma Park),

- » to make Ghana attain medicine sufficiency, including herbal medicines, and export to the AfCTA
  - » facilitating the establishment of manufacturing plants for laboratory reagents, consumables, medical devices, and herbal medicines
  - » supporting the Food and Drugs Authority (FDA), to become self-financing, and to be able to retain staff, for effective regulation, and
  - » expanding FDA's regulatory activities to the newly established Regions and the unmanned border posts, to prevent the influx of substandard and fake products
- **Vaccines**
- » develop a legislative framework for the discovery, development, and manufacturing of vaccines
  - » strengthen the recently established National Vaccine Institute to coordinate and support research development and manufacturing
  - » make resources available for vaccine research and development, and
  - » promote local production of vaccines and related health products, to position Ghana as a regional hub by:
    - supporting private sector establishment and operation of vaccine manufacturing plants, and ensure uptake of products
    - facilitating technology transfer to local manufacturing entities, and build domestic human resource capacity
    - supporting FDA in regulating locally produced vaccines, and
    - promoting self-financing of immunisation services for uptake of locally produced vaccines, and support private sector export to regional and continental markets

- **Health Information System: continue to revolutionise healthcare through technology by:**
  - scaling up telehealth services, completing the digitisation of public healthcare institutions, and ensuring interoperability with private healthcare facilities, to enhance access to quality healthcare, reduce waiting times, and improve patient outcomes, and
  - ensuring the interoperability of the National Electronic Pharmacy Platform (NEPP) with public and private healthcare facilities, streamlining prescription and medication management, reducing errors, detecting and preventing the circulation of fake drugs, and improving patient safety

#### **10.1.2.2. Health Infrastructure**

Over the past eight years, under the Akufo-Addo led administration, we have greatly expanded healthcare infrastructure, including newly-built hospitals, upgrading of existing ones, and completing inherited, abandoned and uncompleted projects, including:

- completed 6 of the 9 stalled and abandoned “Euroget” health sector projects
- started and completed new, 47 non-Agenda 111 hospitals, clinics and healthcare projects, including 21 Clinics through IPEP
- started 17 non-Agenda 111 hospitals, clinics and healthcare projects currently at various stages of completion, including 5 Clinics through IPEP
- started 21 new Treatment and Holding Centres, 13 of which have been completed
- started the Agenda 111 hospitals and healthcare projects made up of 104 (originally 101) District Hospitals, 7 Regional Hospitals, 2 Regional Psychiatric Hospitals, and 1 National Psychiatric Hospital (Accra Psychiatric Hospital)
- completed 17 other inherited hospital projects, and
- completed 428 CHPs compounds and 230 Health Centres



The details are as follows:

**Hospitals, Clinics, and Healthcare Infrastructure started and completed by the Akufo-Addo-led administration**

1. Akontombra
2. Bogoso
3. Elubo
4. Mpohor
5. Nsuaem
6. Wassa Dunkwa
7. Suame
8. Twedie
9. Sabronum
10. Drobonso
11. Manso Nkwanta
12. Mim
13. Nkwatia
14. Kwabeng, Atiwa West
15. Adukrom
16. Achiase
17. Jumapo
18. Kpone Katamanso
19. Sefwi Asawinso
20. Modernisation of Tetteh Quarshie Memorial Hospital
21. Modernisation of Kibi District Hospital
22. Modernisation of Aburi Hospital
23. Modernisation of Atibie Hospital
24. Bolgatanga Regional Hospital (Phase III)
25. Urology and Nephrology Centre, Korle Bu
26. UGMC Phase II

**IPEP Clinics**

27. Odumasi New Site
28. Adansi Asokwa Town
29. Odumasi
30. Poano
31. Asiri
32. Kasoa Akweley Area
33. Osenegya
34. Kwabena Kumi (Okanta Electoral Area)
35. Fumsua
36. Krofokrom
37. Akwasa Electoral Area
38. Nanton Area
39. Makayili
40. Awoma

- 41. Dodofie Area
- 42. Makango
- 43. Tempani Central
- 44. Zuarungu
- 45. Gbedema
- 46. Brefor Baapare
- 47. Insu

**Kufuor-led administration Euroget Hospitals Completed by the Akufo-Addo-led Government (6 of 9 Completed)**

- 1. Ga East Municipal Hospital
- 2. Wa Regional Hospital
- 3. Nsawkaw District Hospital
- 4. Tapa District Hospital
- 5. Twifo-Praso District Hospital
- 6. Konongo District Hospital
- 7. 250-Bed Ashanti Regional Hospital in Sewua (to be commissioned in 2024)
- 8. 500-Bed Afari Military Hospital in Ashanti (to be commissioned in 2024)
- 9. Salaga district Hospital (68% complete)

**Hospitals, Clinics, and Healthcare Infrastructure Started by the Akufo-Addo-led Government But Yet To Be Completed**

- 1. 100-Bed Obuasi Trauma Centre
- 2. Obuasi Health Centre
- 3. 100-Bed Anyinam Hospital
- 4. 40-Bed Enyiresi Hospital
- 5. 750-Bed KATH Maternity and Children's block
- 6. 285-Bed Eastern Regional Hospital, Koforidua
- 7. Expansion of Shama Hospital (100 beds being added)
- 8. 180-Bed La General Hospital
- 9. 400-Bed Tema General Hospital

10. Central Medical Stores

11. Rehabilitation of National Diabetes Centre, Korle Bu

12. 100-Bed Weija Gbawe

### IPEP Clinics

13. Bodi Town

14. Dedesua

15. Jumapo Health Center

16. Odumasi

17. Kwehu Besease

### Ongoing Construction of Agenda 111 Hospitals (Total of 114)

The Hospitals comprise of:

- 104 District Hospitals
- 7 Regional Hospitals
- 2 Regional Psychiatric Hospitals
- 1 National Psychiatric Hospital (Accra Psychiatric Hospital)

NO.	REGION	TOWN	DISTRICT
1	Ahafo	Kukuom	Asunafo South
2	Ahafo	Kenyasi	Asutifi North
3	Ashanti	Trede	Atwima Kwanwoma
4	Ashanti	Kokoben	Oforikrom Municipal
5	Ashanti	Boamang	Afigya Kwabre North
6	Ashanti	Barekese	Atwima Nwabiagya North
7	Ashanti	Adansi Asokwa	Adansi Asokwa
8	Ashanti	Asiwa	Bosome Freho
9	Ashanti	Kodie	Afigya Kwabre South
10	Ashanti	Manso Adubia	Amansie South

NO.	REGION	TOWN	DISTRICT
11	Ashanti	Nyinahin	Atwima Mponua
12	Ashanti	Mankranso	Ahafo Ano South West
13	Ashanti	Adugyama	Ahafo Ano South East
14	Ashanti	Ejisu, Onwe	Ejisu (Psychiatric Hosp.)
15	Ashanti	Nsuta	Sekyere Central
16	Ashanti	Asokore Mampong	Asokore Mampong
17	Ashanti	Ejura	Ejura Sekyedumase
18	Ashanti	Akrofuom	Akrofuom
19	Ashanti	Tutuka	Obuasi East
20	Ashanti	Wadie	Kwabre East
21	Ashanti	Ampambeme	Bantama Sub Metro
22	Ashanti	Manhyia	Kumasi Metro. Assembly
23	Bono	Amasu Dormaa	Dormaa Central
24	Bono	Odomasi	Sunyani West
25	Bono	Jinijini	Berekum West
26	Bono East	Tuobodom	Techiman North
27	Bono East	Kajaji	Sene East
28	Bono East	Prang	Pru West
29	Bono East	Busunya	Nkoranza North
30	Bono East	Nkoranza	Nkoranza
31	Central	Afransi	Gomoa Central
32	Central	Lower Denkyira	Twifo Heman
33	Central	Nsuaem Kyekyewere	Assin South
34	Central	Awutu Bereku	Awutu Senya
35	Central	Assin Bereku	Assin North
36	Central	Diaso	Upper Denkyira West

NO.	REGION	TOWN	DISTRICT
37	Central	Kasoa	Awutu Senya East
38	Eastern	Abomосу	Atiwa West
39	Eastern	Apegesu	Asuogyaman
40	Eastern	Akim Swedru	Birim South
41	Eastern	Ofoase	Akyemansa
42	Eastern	Nsaba	Agona East
43	Eastern	Mansо	Asene Mansо Akroso
44	Eastern	Tease	Kwahu Afram Plains South
45	Eastern	Osino	Fanteakwa South
46	Eastern	Adeiso	Upper West Akim
47	Eastern	Abetifi	Kwahu East
48	Greater Accra	Ningo Prampram	Ningo-Prampram
49	Greater Accra	Sowutuom	Ga Central
50	Greater Accra	Sege	Ada West
51	Greater Accra	Adenta	Adentan Municipal
52	Greater Accra	Madina	La-Nkwantanang Madina
53	Greater Accra	Ngleshie Amanfro	Ga South
54	Greater Accra	Dansoman	Ablekuma West Municipal
55	Greater Accra	Agbogbloshie	Ablekuma Central
56	Greater Accra	Kaneshie	AMA
57	Greater Accra	Ashaiman	Ashaiman
58	Greater Accra	Texpo	Tema West
59	Greater Accra	Dzorwulu	Ayawaso West
60	North East	Yagaba	Mamprugu Moagduri
61	North East	Bunkpurugu	Bunkpurugu Nyankpanduri
62	North East	Yunyoo	Yunyoo-Nasuan

NO.	REGION	TOWN	DISTRICT
63	North East	Chereponi	Chereponi
64	Northern	Savelugu	Savelugu Municipal
65	Northern	Sang	Mion
66	Northern	Nanton	Nanton
67	Northern	Saboba	Saboba
68	Northern	Tamale	Tamale (Psychiatric Hosp.)
69	Northern	Kpandai	Kpandai
70	Northern	Wulensi	Nanumba South
71	Northern	Sagnarigu	Sagnarigu Municipal
72	Northern	Kumbungu	Kumbungu
73	Northern	Karaga	Karaga
74	Oti	Kadjebi	Kadjebi
75	Oti	Kpassa	Nkwanta North
76	Oti	Chinderi	Krachi Nchumuru
77	Oti	Jasikan	Jasikan
78	Savannah	Daboya	North Gonja
79	Savannah	Kpalbe	North East Gonja
80	Upper East	Garu	Garu
81	Upper East	Paga	Kassena Nankana West
82	Upper East	Pusiga	Pusiga
83	Upper East	Zuarungu	Bolgatanga East
84	Upper East	Binduri	Binduri
85	Upper East	Tempane	Tempane
86	Upper East	Fumbisi	Bulsa South
87	Upper East	Nangodi	Nabdam
88	Upper West	Lambussie	Lambussie/Karni

NO.	REGION	TOWN	DISTRICT
89	Upper West	Weinchiau	Wa West
90	Upper West	Gwollu	Sissala West
91	Upper West	Issa	Daffiama Bussie Issa
92	Upper West	Funsi	Wa East
93	Volta	Ave Dakpa	Akatsi North
94	Volta	Kpeve	South Dayi
95	Volta	Adaklu Waya	Adaklu
96	Volta	Ve-Golokwati	Afadzato South
97	Volta	Anloga	Anloga
98	Volta	Dzolokpuita	Ho West
99	Volta	Kpetoe	Agortime-Ziope
100	Volta	Akatsi	Akatsi
101	Western	Bokro	Ahanta West
102	Western	Mpohor	Mpohor
103	Western North	Bodi	Bodi
104	Western North	Adabokrom	Bia East
105	Western North	Dadieso	Suaman
106	Bono East	Techiman Regional Hospital	
107	Ahafo	Goaso Regional Hospital	
108	Savannah	Damango Regional Hospital	
109	North East	Nalerigu Regional Hospital	
110	Western North	Sewfi Wiaso Regional Hospital	
111	Oti	Dambai Regional Regional Hospital	
112	Western Region	Agona Nkwanta Regional Hospital	
113	Western Region	Effia-Nkwanta Hospital Rehabilitation	
114	Greater Accra	Accra Psychiatric Hospital Redevelopment	

## **Treatment and Holding Centres Constructed/Under Construction by The Akufo-Addo/Bawumia Government**

### **Completed**

1. Dodowa 20-Bed
2. Pantang
3. Cape Coast
4. Elubo 21-Bed
5. Keta 21-Bed
6. Korle Bu Fevers Unit
7. Sewua
8. Kumasi South 21-Bed
9. Dodowa + 6 Staff bungalows
10. Aflao 21-Bed
11. Zebilla 36-Bed
12. Pantang
13. Adaklu

### **Ongoing**

14. Asawinso 20-Bed (93% as at April 2024)
15. Goaso 20-Bed (91% as at April 2024)
16. Nalerigu 36-Bed
17. Sunyani 36-Bed (63 % as at April 2024)
18. Koforidua 21-Bed (57% as at April 2024)
19. Nkenkasu
20. Effia – Nkwanta Research Lab.
21. Nsawam

## **Hospitals and Healthcare Infrastructure/Projects Started by NDC and Completed by NPP**

1. Fomena
2. Kumawu
3. Takoradi Hospital Staff Accommodation
4. Bekwai
5. Radiotherapy & Nuclear Medicine Services at KBTH
6. Radiotherapy & Nuclear Medicine Services at KATH
7. Ashaiman Polyclinic

8. Adentan/Ogbojo Polyclinic
9. Bortianor Polyclinic
10. Oduman Polyclinic
11. Sege Polyclinic
12. Weta, Volta Region
13. Somanya
14. Tolon
15. Sawla
16. Buipe
17. Bamboi

## 10.2. ENERGY & PETROLEUM

Under the Akufo-Addo-led administration over the past 8 years, the NPP, which inherited a power sector struggling under the weight of industry-killing power cuts and debts, which posed serious systemic threats to the banking and finance sector, has kept the power on and made significant progress in restructuring the sector, including, among many others:

- **increasing the national electricity access rate to 88.85% as at 2023**
- **adding 134.1 MW of renewable energy**, from a low of 37.7 in 2016 to 171.8 MW
- **introducing 90 MWp of solar power** into the generation mix
- **introducing boundary and distribution transformer metering**, to enhance energy accounting and reduce distribution system losses
- **improving monthly collection by ECG through digitalisation**, from a low of GH¢480 million to over GH¢1 billion
- **simplifying residential electricity tariff** bands from 6 to 2

- **inverting the tariff band** to make it more favourable for commercial purposes
- **introducing the Gold for Oil Programme (G4O)** to:
  - significantly reduce forex pressure on the Bank of Ghana, and
  - help Bulk Imports, Distribution and Exports Companies' (BIDECs) negotiate more competitive premiums with suppliers (Premiums dropped from \$180 - \$200 /MT to \$70/ MT or less)
- **ensuring availability of petroleum products amidst the global fuel crisis**, by introducing the International Oil Trading Company (IOTC) license
- **introducing the use of condensate for the preparation of pre-mix fuel** to ensure adequate supply to fishing communities
- **distributing over 430,000 stoves**, to reduce the harmful effects of smoke from cooking with charcoal
- **acquiring 7% participating interest in the Jubilee and TEN fields**, increasing Ghana's interest in operating and profitable fields. This has yielded revenue of \$345 million as at 2023
- **commissioning an additional 30,000 barrels per day of crude oil production** from Jubilee Southeast
- **introducing a realignment policy** to strengthen energy sector institutions, eliminate waste, and reduce duplication. This policy will merge
  - i. Public Utilities Regulatory Commission (PURC) and Energy Commission (EC),
  - ii. VRA & Bui Power Authority (BPA)
  - iii. ECG & Northern Electricity Company (NEDco)
- **establishing a Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) infrastructure** for the energy sector, in compliance with the Cybersecurity Act 2020 (Act 1038)

- **successfully renegotiating many of the Take-Or-Pay energy sector contracts entered into by the NDC government**
- **establishing the Ghana Nuclear Power Authority**, and
- **establishing the Ghana Thermal Energy Authority**

While we have made significant progress, we also recognise the challenges and opportunities within the energy sector. The next NPP administration will continue to address these challenges with a focus on efficiency, affordability, and reliability, while taking advantage of the opportunities to further diversify our energy mix.

Under a Bawumia presidency, we will:

- **address issues in the power sector**, including inadequate infrastructure development, insufficient investment in renewable energy sources, aging power generation facilities, transmission and distribution losses, and inefficiencies in the supply chain, which contribute to persistent electricity shortages, unreliable service delivery, and high electricity tariffs
- **address both upstream and downstream challenges in the petroleum sector**, including issues relating to dwindling discoveries and explorations, increased costs at the pump, and
- **providing leadership and investments** in energy transition, local content, and cybersecurity preparedness of the energy sector

### 10.2.1. Power Sector

The power sector in Ghana has underperformed its potential, presenting ongoing challenges that exert a downward pressure on our national budget, and pose adverse consequences for the economy. The current regulatory framework has not fully yielded the desired outcomes. Residential, commercial, and industrial consumers still face issues with the reliability and cost competitiveness of power supply, hindering the country's economic growth and development efforts.

Under a Bawumia presidency, we will:

- **incentivise solar power users through the net metering system** under which households and other producers of solar power get “credits” for excess power they provide the national grid, against which they can use grid power when not on solar
- **implement a significant shift in electricity tariffs** structure to a regime in which commercial rates are either equal to, or lower than residential rates, never higher, to power industries and businesses
- **develop a framework to allocate reliable and affordable power pricing** to aid the development of the emerging lithium, and integrated iron, steel, aluminium and manganese industries
- **introduce a framework to streamline the procurement of fuel for power generation.** This framework will encourage Independent Power Producers (IPPs) to buy their own fuel to improve power security and efficiency, transfer financial risk and cost efficiency responsibilities to IPPs, foster market competition, allow the government to focus on core responsibilities, reduce the fiscal burden, enhance transparency and accountability, and attract investments into the sector
- **introduce measures to accelerate national electrification to achieve a universal access** by 2028
- **introduce Private sector participation (PSP) into the retail power sector,** to improve efficiency and customer satisfaction, especially in metering, billing, and collection
- **institute governance requirements similar to those in highly regulated sectors like finance and banking,** to ensure board members’ fiduciary responsibilities, and potential sanctions, are clearly spelt out
- **strengthen regulatory oversight within the power sub- sector, and implement institutional rearrangements,** including the merger of Public Utilities Regulatory Commission (PURC) and the Energy Commission (EC), to empower the regulatory body and promote consistency in regulatory policies and standards, and

- **digitise the revenue platform that will apply Cash Waterfall Mechanism (CWM) sharing ratio at the point of all electricity tariff payment**, to enhance liquidity within the electricity value chain, increase transparency and reduce indebtedness

### 10.2.2. Petroleum Sector

The upstream industry of Ghana's petroleum sector faces a myriad of challenges, including reduced production, discoveries and exploration, and the departure of major players. The downstream sector has its own set of continuing issues, mainly the increased cost of products at the pumps.

To address these issues and reduce the burden it places on Ghanaians, a Bawumia presidency will:

- **review the Petroleum Act, 2016 (Act 919) in the following areas:**
  - a new fiscal regime to make Ghana a preferred destination for exploration and production
  - include onshore and transitional zones exploration policies
  - introduce a 2-Year exploration license to replace the current reconnaissance license for offshore exploration, and
  - make provisions for the funding of Ghana's Energy Transition plan
- **commit to simplifying approval processes for appraisals and production programmes**, to reenergise upstream activities
- **review and strengthen the Petroleum Revenue Management Act**, to streamline government allocation of oil funds and address gaps in the law
- **fully implement the Infrastructure-Led Exploration (ILX) strategy**, to unlock the full potential of Ghana's offshore reserves
- **expand the Gold for Oil (G4O) Programme to increase its penetration of the oil market to further reduce the forex pressure** on Bank of Ghana, and to further stabilise the prices of petroleum products

- **implement regulations that will improve the financial sustainability of the fuel supply chain in the downstream market**, to minimise the credit system and improve liquidity for the procurement of petroleum products
- **implement new policies to incentivise private sector participation** in the petroleum and petrochemicals hub
- **strengthen the regulatory capacity of the National Petroleum Authority (NPA)**, to develop regulations to promote an export-oriented petroleum hub
- **partner the private sector to build and maximise our gas processing infrastructure** for power generation, ammonia for fertiliser, and gas to petrochemical liquids
- **introduce policy that will encourage and facilitate International Oil Companies to partner local universities**, to collaborate on Research and Development for our upstream activities, and
- **implement regulations to guide Regulator-Operators' relationships** to minimise regulatory overreach close collaboration for industrial harmony

### 10.2.3. Local Content and Participation

Under a Bawumia presidency, we will continue to promote effective and full local content and Ghanaian participation in the energy and petroleum sector.

To further our objectives, we will:

- **review and strengthen local content laws** to close the gaps and deepen the role of Ghanaians and Ghanaian companies in our upstream activities, including introducing measures to promote local capacity development, technology transfer, employment opportunities in the upstream sector, and
- **introduce a dedicated National Ghanaian Content Fund, and National Data Acquisition Fund, to help Ghanaian enterprises** enhance their competitiveness, and to effectively participate in the upstream sector

#### 10.2.4. Energy Transition and Renewable Energy

The NPP is committed to diversifying Ghana's energy mix to include significant investments in renewable energy as part of its commitment to the global energy transition strategy to address environmental and climate change, and importantly, to increase our energy security and reduce the cost of electricity for Ghanaians.

To further our overall goals in this area, a Bawumia presidency will:

- **roll out 2000 MW of solar power to diversify our energy mix, increase the use of our natural resources, and improve our energy security.** This will be supported by:
  - promoting Solar Systems (SS) for Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), and, for Secondary and Tertiary institutions
  - promoting mini, off-Grid electrification for rural communities not connected to the national grid, and
  - promoting Solar Home Systems (SHS)
- **align the addition of new generation capacity** with the Integrated Power System Master Plan (IPSMP), and the National Energy Transition Framework
- **develop a Biofuel value chain policy** to include:
  - adaptation of E10 biofuel (Blend of 90% gasoline and 10% ethanol), and
  - encouraging locally produced ethanol to be used for E10 Biofuel
- **incentivise the private sector to develop waste-to-energy projects** which will also help in controlling and disposing of waste, reducing sanitation-associated health risks, and
- **accelerate the work of the Ghana Nuclear Power Authority,** with our developmental partners, in choosing a Vendor/ Strategic Partner to commence the next phase of our nuclear power development

### 10.2.5. Energy Sector Cybersecurity Preparedness

A 2023 report by World Economic Forum (WEF), citing the International Energy Agency (IEA), indicates that “*the number of weekly cyberattacks on energy companies have doubled since 2020.*” These cybercrimes have heavily impacted businesses and households, severely affecting economic activity and growth. The report further cites lack of skilled cybersecurity professionals in the sector as a major risk.

To effectively protect our energy infrastructure and assets, a Bawumia presidency will:

- **implement mandatory cybersecurity training for all employees within the Energy Sector**, to ensure staff are equipped with the knowledge and skills to identify and mitigate cyber threats effectively, and
- **introduce a cybersecurity compliance certification scheme for firms operating in the energy sector**, which will require companies to meet specific cybersecurity standards and undergo regular audits to ensure compliance.

## 10.3. AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture, Fisheries, and Industry have been, and will continue to be significant drivers in Ghana’s economic development history. The NPP understands the deep, strategic, synergistic relationship between agriculture and industrial development, and over the past eight years, has made significant investments in both sectors, through initiatives like “Planting for Food and Jobs (PFJ)” and “One District, One Factory (1D1F),” which have created thousands of jobs and a pathway out of poverty, into prosperity, for many Ghanaians. More than 50% of the applications to the 1D1F programme were for agro-processing projects.

Our broad vision remains a farmer- and fisher-centred business-driven agriculture value chain, that applies technology and sustainable climate-smart practices to achieve food sufficiency, food security, better nutrition, employment, wealth creation, income security and a digital-manufacturing led industrial sector to accelerate value- addition.

The next NPP administration under a Bawumia presidency will therefore continue investing in these sectors to ensure food security for Ghanaians, add value to agricultural produce, move manufactured products from Ghana up the value-chain, while creating sustainable incomes for producers.

### 10.3.1. Agriculture

Agriculture is critical to the industrialisation of the economy, as well as in creating millions of jobs and wealth for Ghanaians.

Over the last few years, we have rehabilitated 74,056 cocoa farms, which were destroyed by the swollen shoot disease, and so far, enrolled 100,000 cocoa farmers in the pension scheme. It is expected that all cocoa farmers in Ghana will be registered by the end of 2024. As part of the government's efforts to digitise the cocoa sector, Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) has developed the Cocoa Management System (CMS), which is a comprehensive, integrated digital database that captures farm and farmer information, including the polygons and physical conditions of farms, as well as farmer household characteristics. It is Ghana's first credible nationwide database on cocoa farmers and a critical digital foundation for the Cocoa Farmers Pension Scheme and Cocoa Traceability System.

In addition, rice imports declined by 45% (from 805,000MT to 440,000MT) between 2021 and 2023. The goal is to be a net exporter of rice by 2028.

While initiatives such as "Planting for Food and Jobs (PFJ)", "Rearing for Food and Jobs (RFJ)", "Aquaculture for Food and Jobs (AFJ)", Living Income Differential (LID), National Cocoa Farmers Pension Scheme, One Village One Dam (1V1D), One District One Warehouse (1D1W), the establishment of the Ghana Cattle Ranching Committee

(GCRC) and Ghana Cattle Ranching and Transhumance Association in line with the ECOWAS Protocol on Transhumance, digitisation of the cocoa sector, and, the construction of fishing harbours and landing sites have added to the overall increase in agricultural growth rate from 2.7% in 2016 to 4.5 % in 2023, and instilled vibrancy in the sector, our agricultural systems continue to be threatened by climate change, declining soil conditions and the slow adoption of relevant technology.

The next NPP administration will build on the successes of these initiatives, as well as develop other targeted interventions, to meet the demands of the ever-evolving agriculture sector.

The broad strategy will revolve around:

- industrialising the sector to make it much more productive, efficient and competitive through government-supported, private-sector led agricultural transformation
- engendering food sufficiency and food security
- drastically reducing food importation and saving foreign exchange
- creating employment for the youth, whilst making farming and agribusiness attractive
- producing raw materials to feed 1D1F factories
- Construct more irrigation dams under the 1V1D programme to improve irrigation for our farming communities, and
- generating income and generally improving the living conditions of farmers

Specifically, we will, in respect of each of these product and activity category:

- **Crops:**
  - **in collaboration with the private sector, create agricultural enclaves in each region, using the comparative advantage of the regional environment.** Each enclave will have storage and processing facilities attached for value addition

- building upon the mechanisation centres established by the NPP administration to **further create private sector- driven, state-of-the art mechanisation and service centres, as well as implement targeted credit schemes, for dealers of mechanisation equipment**, to accelerate the uptake of mechanisation, with special incentives for women and youth
- **start a Special Soybean Programme that will introduce soybean planters and combine harvesters to increase yields.** The aim is to increase yield to 4 MT per Ha by 2028
- **establish a Cash Crops Marketing Company (large aggregator), which will offer a ready market for farmers and will also assure processing companies of a continuous supply of raw materials through off-taker agreements** with factories and commercial entities, for the domestic and export markets
- **establish a Ghana Agricultural Services Department, to train and deploy agriculture extension officers**, to improve extension services and technical competence in agriculture
- **strengthen existing research institutions and the Tree Crops Development Authority (TCDA)**, to reduce reliance on imported food and tree crops planting materials (seeds)
- **invest in the development of other high-value tree crops**, such as avocado, citrus, passion fruit, and their processing
- **revive the cotton industry for job and wealth creation**, by re-operationalising the three government ginneries, with 50% women and youth participation, in the production and aggregation of cotton lint
- **collaborate with the Research Institute in Kade**, to encourage orange/citrus farmers to rehabilitate about 20,000 acres a year, as well as introduce new varieties
- **collaborate with the private sector in the research and development of seedlings of the Smooth Cayenne variety of pineapple**, which can be supplied all year round for processing

- **invest in the research and development of pawpaw and passion fruit seedlings** for value-addition, and
- **upscale support for horticultural products like chilli peppers, mangoes, tomatoes, and aubergines**, through investments in research, production, and marketing
- **Cocoa**
  - **undertake a mop-up exercise to enrol any cocoa farmer missed in the ongoing Cocoa Farmers Pension Scheme enrolment exercise**
  - **strengthen Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana (CRIG)** in the development of a high-yielding variety of cocoa, and shea, with a shorter maturity period, to achieve sustained yields over a 20 – 25-year life cycle, produce up to two million improved cocoa seedlings, and encourage farmers with the capacity to nurse their own seedlings
  - **in respect of the Farm Rehabilitation project:**
    - » **engage and pay farmers directly to cut down diseased cocoa trees and replant the farms**, and give replanting contracts to farmers who prove to be capable of replanting their own farms
    - » **support farmers to scale up the annual treatment and rehabilitation of diseased farms**, from a yearly average of 10,000 hectares to 40,000 hectares through a special farmer participatory project involving the planting of seedlings, planting of plantain suckers, farm maintenance, and
    - » **continue to pay adequate compensation** for every diseased farm treated or replanted
  - **improve access to agricultural services** by facilitating access to reclaimed land, digitalisation, finance, inputs, extension, and marketing support
  - **incentivise the private sector** to invest in large cocoa plantations
  - **initiate a Youth and Women in Cocoa Farming Programme**, to encourage youth and women involvement in the sector

- **encourage the use of CRIG-approved high-value crops as intercrops** so farmers can earn additional income from them
- **ensure transparency and efficient service delivery to cocoa farmers** by implementing a transparent pricing mechanism
- **liberalise the input supply market**, to allow multiple suppliers to compete, reducing input costs and improving access. COCOBOD will monitor and regulate this market to ensure fair competition and quality
- **tackling the challenges of climate change, ageing farms, pests, and diseases by** strengthening CRIG in the development of high-yielding, diseases and drought tolerant varieties to achieve sustained yield
- promote the use of local agricultural material, especially own-produced beans, in manufacturing and processing of chocolates and cocoa-based products, and
- address the negative impact of illegal mining in cocoa growing areas

- **Shea Development**

- **promote the marketing and processing of shea** locally and internationally
- **revamp and resource the Buipe Shea Processing Factory**, and establish new ones, and
- **strengthen and empower research institutions** to develop shea varieties with a shorter maturity period, and to achieve sustained yield

- **Large Scale Farming**

- **facilitate the acquisition of land** for large-scale commercial farming
- **invest in agricultural infrastructure by** building more roads and irrigation systems, and improving storage facilities to support agricultural activities, and

- **facilitate market access** through value chain development, and an effective market linkage system between commercial farmers and the poultry and agro-industrial sectors
- **Livestock**
  - **establish, in partnership with research institutions, a National Livestock Improvement Programme** to introduce high-yield, climate-resilient breeds adapted to Ghana's ecological conditions, as well as develop ecological zonal breeding centres equipped with modern facilities, to support modern insemination and other breeding technologies to enhance genetic diversity and productivity
  - **promote the use of precision agriculture in livestock farming** through subsidies on Internet of Things (IoT) devices that monitor health and optimise feeding schedules
  - **offer farmers training programmes on using technology in livestock management**, including the use of mobile applications for market access, veterinary health, and transhumance and livestock theft tracking, and
  - **introduce entrepreneurship development programmes at farmer training centres**, and through online platforms, that focus on business management, financial literacy, and innovation
- **Poultry**
  - **embark on a Strategic Investment and Infrastructure Development drive by:**
    - » developing and modernising poultry farming infrastructure to increase productivity
    - » facilitating and supporting the establishment and operations of modernised hatcheries
    - » facilitating the establishment and operations of poultry feed mills to produce poultry feed, and
    - » promoting the adoption of modern poultry farming techniques and technologies

- **invest in processing and storage by:**
  - » expanding partnerships with the private sector to develop poultry processing, storage, and other value-addition facilities, and
  - » strengthening the ENABLE Youth programme under 1D1F, to embrace more youth in poultry production, including those with disabilities
- **support financing and access to credit by**
  - » creating financial instruments, incentives and packages tailored for small to medium-sized poultry enterprises, and
  - » facilitating access to credit through partnerships with banks and microfinance institutions
- **support the cultivation of feed ingredients locally,** to ensure a reliable and affordable supply
- **invest in capacity building and training by**
  - » launching comprehensive training programmes for poultry farmers on best practices, business management, and improved technology use, and
  - » strengthening veterinary services through the establishment of veterinary clinics to provide efficient poultry disease and pest surveillance, control, and health management
- **support market development, trade regulation and quality assurance by**
  - » developing marketing initiatives to promote locally produced poultry products
  - » improving market access for smallholder farmers through cooperative models and linkage to value chains
  - » promoting the consumption of locally produced poultry products, and

- » implementing stricter quality assurance and control measures for poultry products to safeguard public health

- **Cattle**

- develop a pastoral policy, and enact and enforce cattle ranching legislation for clear guidelines on land use, cattle movement, and conflict resolution between herders and farmers
- facilitate the establishment of modern and climate-smart ranching facilities
- strengthen the Ghana Cattle Ranching Committee (GCRC), and Ghana Cattle Ranching and Transhumance Association, in line with the ECOWAS Protocol on Transhumance
- create special zones for cattle ranching and cattle rearing, and assist local cattle rearing farmers to uptake improved technologies in cattle ranching
- improve the breeding of cattle through modern insemination for better milk yield
- strengthen the capacity of existing agricultural colleges to train and equip technical officers and vocational workers in modern cattle rearing techniques and technologies
- improve and strengthen existing vaccine production facilities in rolling out nationwide vaccination and disease prevention programmes, targeting key cattle diseases, and
- establish accessible veterinary services across all cattle-rearing regions to ensure timely healthcare and pest control

- **Small Ruminants**

- support improved pig and small ruminant breeding by rehabilitating and resourcing breeding centres, and establishing additional centres in each of the agroecological zones
- continue distribution of superior breeding stock to farmers
- support and facilitate the adoption of an intensive commercial pig and small ruminant-rearing system, and

- support private businesses in establishing and upgrading processing facilities to ensure high-quality pork products, meat products and other small ruminant products
- **Convert the Veterinary Services Department into a Ghana Veterinary Authority**, to strengthen and empower the authority to regulate research into zoological diseases and to prevent, diagnose, control and manage diseases originating from animals
- **To address declining soil fertility**, we will also promote the use of locally produced agricultural lime to reduce the acidity of our soils, enhance soil fertility and get more yield from the application of fertilizers
- **Ensure equitable access to land, water, and other natural resources**, particularly for marginalised groups such as women, the vulnerable, and persons with disabilities
- **Foster collaboration between government agencies, CSOs, and grassroots movements** to build a more inclusive, democratic food system
- **Post Harvest**
  - construct modern crop specific storage silos in all agricultural zones, and rehabilitate the existing silos to expand storage facilities
  - accelerate the pace of development and dissemination of postharvest technologies
  - explore bi-lateral preferential and duty-free access to markets for our agricultural and fish produce
  - promote the production of effective and efficient processing equipment and tools for palm oil extraction, gari, cassava flour, and maize flour by artisans in, for example, Suame Magazine, and other similar enclaves, and
  - incentivise the private sector to invest in the processing of value-added products, including processing of grains into cornflakes, edible oils, industrial grits, grits for food, and animal meals; starches and their derivatives, ethanol and gari; climatic control warehouses for yam, potatoes and plantain

for year-round export; and, juices, alcohols, pharmaceutical grade shea butter, vegetable milk, and vegetable oil.

### 10.3.2. Fisheries and Aquaculture

Under the Akufo-Addo-led administration, fisheries and aquaculture has improved and expanded through programmes like “Aquaculture for Food and Jobs”, the construction of harbours and landing sites, and the rehabilitation of hatcheries and aquaculture demonstration centres. As a result, fish production has increased from approximately 435,098 MT in 2016 to 657,472 MT in 2022, and the value of fish imports almost halved from US\$146 million to US\$74 million in the same period.

To accelerate growth of the sector, we will:

- **provide support for an expanded Aquaculture for Food and Jobs (AFJ) programme**
- **adopt an Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management Approach**, and more effectively enforce the Fisheries Laws and Regulations, as well as resource and equip the Fisheries Commission to achieve its statutory mandate, especially in the areas of surveillance, monitoring and scientific surveys
- **continue to supply subsidised fishing gear** (including outboard motors and fishing nets) **and subsidised premix fuel to fishers**. We will also operationalise the currently completed 45 Premix fuel Automatic Dispenser Systems, and construct more automated dispensers to ensure availability at all fish landing sites
- **fully deploy electronic monitoring and surveillance systems** to provide assurance of effective monitoring and surveillance of Industrial Trawl and Tuna fleets
- **pay attention to artisanal fishers and address their needs by:**
  - deepening consultation and engagements with artisanal industry leadership and membership
  - collaborating with artisanal fishers to take responsibility for distributing fisheries logistics and inputs, including premix fuel, provided by government

- equipping artisanal fishers with GPS, echo-sounders, fish-finders and transponders to aid in efficient fishing activities
- facilitating and supporting inland capture fisheries by using inland scientific frame surveys and other research outcomes to satisfy their needs, and
- facilitating and supporting competence-based, alternative livelihood training in construction, plumbing, carpentry, glass glazing, masonry, welding and fabrication, auto mechanic, marine fitting, hair braiding, dressmaking, cosmetology, catering, shoe and handbag making by TVET institutions for youth in artisanal fisheries
- **continue the construction of landing sites with ancillary facilities, including cold storage etc, and develop additional ten, equipped with solar power**
- **maximise the existing opportunities in Mariculture by:**
  - promoting and supporting the development of Coastal Zones for fish ranching and mariculture
  - facilitating, promoting and supporting a special “Shrimps-Grey Mullet-Grouper Production for Coastal Livelihood and Employment” programme
  - supporting sustainable grow-out for Volta Clam, Oyster and Seaweed culture for coastal women and youth for livelihood, jobs and wealth creation
  - enhancing the aquaculture suitability and zonation studies in Lagoons, Rivers, Lakes, Estuaries, Water Reservoirs and Wetlands to increase Fisheries Resources for diversified Fish species, and
  - providing attractive incentives to direct private sector investments into technological infrastructure in Mariculture and in other Aquaculture resources
- **collaborate with the private sector to develop state-of-the-art Aquaculture Hubs**
- **implement a One-Stop-Shop Permits and Licensing system for Aquaculture production and waive payment of permit and license fees for small scale aquaculture farmers**

- **rehabilitate all Fisheries Commission-owned hatcheries and aquaculture demonstration centres** and the 66 Battalion Aquaculture facility at Ho, to reduce the high cost of Ghanaian fingerlings, high fingerling mortality rates, and limited access to quality Ghanaian fingerlings
- **establish and train fish aggregators**, fish buyers' associations, chefs, fish processors, and off-takers, and linking them to producers of farmed fish
- **facilitate and develop the Akosombo strain Nile Tilapia** beyond generation 11, and
- **to address the high cost of fish feed and other Aquaculture inputs:**
  - train fish farmers on how to produce feed using locally available raw materials
  - facilitate the acquisition of small to medium scale fish feed production machinery for groups of farmed fish producers, and
  - enhance production efficiency by facilitating and supporting further research into fish feed and recipe formulation to achieve maximum fish feed conversion ratio, protein and calorie retention

### 10.3.3. Industrial Development

Under the Akufo-Addo-led administration, we have achieved significant progress investing in and supporting the industrial sector, including through “One District, One Factory” (1D1F) and the “Strategic Anchor Industries” policies, and, the development of the aluminium, iron and steel industries through the Ghana Integrated Aluminium Development Corporation (GIADEC) and Ghana Integrated Iron and Steel Development Corporation (GIISDEC). To date, we have, among others, delivered the following:

- **successful bidding for, and hosting of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat** in Accra
- **significant inroads into East Africa, especially Kenya and Tanzania**, with over 700 AfCFTA-certified products from Ghana,

including cosmetics, processed foods, beverages, coconut oil, shea butter, and garments under the Guided Trade Initiative

- **One District, One Factory:**
  - over 321 1D1F Projects at various stages of implementation, including 211 new, medium to large scale factories, and 110 existing companies, with significant capital investments into the expansion of production facilities and diversification of products
  - 169 factories are currently in operation, and 152 factories are under construction
- **Strategic Anchor Industries**
  - **Automobile Assembly:** 12 Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), including Volkswagen, Toyota, Suzuki, Nissan, Peugeot, KIA, Hyundai, and Honda, produce a range of models here in Ghana
  - **Textiles and Garments:** 13 Textiles and Garments manufacturing companies supported to date
  - **Pharmaceuticals:** 15 Pharmaceutical manufacturing companies supported to date
  - **Vegetable Oils and Fats:** 25 Vegetable Oil manufacturing companies supported to date, and
  - **Industrial Starch:** 16 Cassava Starch / Ethanol manufacturing companies supported to date
- **Industrial Parks: facilitated the establishment of the following Industrial Parks and Special Economic Zones:**
  - Westpark – Shama, Western Region
  - Dawa Industrial Zone – Dawhenya, Greater Accra Region
  - Apolonia Industrial Zone – Oyibi, Greater Accra Region
  - Greater Kumasi Industrial City – Ejisu, Ashanti Region, and
  - Rehabilitation of the Tema Free Zone Enclave

- **through Ghana Export Promotion Authority (GEPA) over 1,700 businesses have been supported to export Non-Traditional Export (NTE) goods and services worth US\$3.9 billion in 2023, constituting 24% of total national exports**

We will continue advancing and accelerating these initiatives.

Under the next NPP administration, our overarching industrial strategy is to transform existing industries to adapt to new technologies in adding value and creating more jobs. Natural resource-based and agricultural produce processing are ready for tech-enabled value addition. This requires addressing critical challenges and leveraging new technologies for production.

A Bawumia presidency will invest in and promote initiatives that will enhance Ghana's competitive edge within the AfCFTA region, and ensure a prosperous future that benefits all Ghanaians, especially the youth.

Specifically, we will:

- **implement a Ghana Industrial Master Plan (GIMP) which will target an increase in manufacturing GDP contribution to 20% by 2030, create value-added jobs, and integrate Ghanaian MSMEs into global supply chains.**

GIMP will focus on sectors such as natural resource-based industries, agricultural processing, healthcare and pharmaceutical industries, housing products, garments and textiles, and the green economy, and review the value chains in these sectors with the view to identifying new opportunities for wealth and job creation

- **facilitate the creation of decent jobs by** supporting MSMEs to better integrate into domestic and global value and supply chains, particularly those owned by women, youth, and persons with disabilities, through capacity-building, tax incentives, local content regulations, and direct interventions
- **support existing Ghanaian businesses by:**
  - assisting them with export marketing, through the Ghana Malls Concept Shops among others, to support the trade of Ghana-made products in Africa and elsewhere

- examine public expenditure on items procured often, develop value chains for, and promote local manufacturing opportunities for them (Local Content)
  - supporting cooperatives across various sectors, particularly in agriculture, manufacturing, and retail, to pool resources, gain economies of scale, and increase their bargaining power in the market (Cooperatives Development)
  - encouraging large companies to support MSMEs by leveraging existing local brands to trade, obtain capital, or start businesses (National Franchising Promotion)
  - owners of MSMEs that file Personal Income Tax returns and pay all their taxes to the GRA will have an amount equal to 10% of their yearly tax payment treated as contributions towards their pension benefits to ensure retirement income security for such persons. The objective is to ensure that persons in the informal sector have decent savings to live on during their retirement
  - establishing Diaspora Desks (DDs) in our foreign missions to connect Ghanaians in the diaspora with specific small business opportunities in Ghana, to promote the export of “Made in Ghana” goods and services
  - strengthening trade associations and providing incentives that support digitalisation, credit, and technical support for members
  - enhancing the Business Resource Centres (BRCs), to provide the youth with access to free business plans, developed to target profitable ventures, and
  - enhancing trading opportunities at the retail level through a new outdoor market design (“pedestrian malls”) with adequate airflow, ventilation, and sanitary facilities. This will be standardised and rolled out nationwide in partnership with the private sector
- **strengthen GEPA to scale up its support** for NTEs, especially to the AfCFTA region (NTE exports from Ghana to AfCFTA in 2023 was US\$1.8 billion)

- **refine Ghana's Freeport Policy for Industrial Advancement** through Special Economic Zones for MSMEs: under this policy, we will, through the private sector, establish special economic zones specifically designed for MSMEs and export-oriented enterprises, to strengthen market access and stimulate exports. These zones will offer critical infrastructure, streamline administrative services, and direct access to international shipping routes, simplifying the export process and reducing costs.

## 10.4. LANDS, MINERALS, NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT

The overriding objective of the NPP has always been to, when it comes to our natural resources, develop the minerals, forests, and lands in a manner that benefits our people, drives our economy, and positions the mining and natural resources sector as a major growth pillar of the Ghanaian economy. This commitment is evidenced in, among others, the ongoing development of the aluminium, iron and steel industries value chain, through the Ghana Integrated Aluminium Development Corporation (GIADEC) and Ghana Integrated Iron and Steel Development Corporation (GIISDEC).

Over the years, despite the significant gains in its management, the sector has faced several challenges, particularly in ensuring sustainable management of our resources and for the prosperity it comes with to be more widely spread, especially in resource-rich, Ghanaian communities.

Broadly, the overarching objectives of our natural resources' strategy under a Bawumia presidency will be to:

- usher Ghana into a golden age for the maximisation of the benefits from our natural resources like gold, diamond and gemstones, lithium, bauxite, iron and manganese, through value addition and Ghanaian ownership

- drive policies to raise mining's contribution to GDP, and significantly increase income to Government from all mining and related activities
- develop policies, and stimulate investment activities and our potential in strategic and critical minerals
- become a leading player in Africa across several value chains – including Aluminium, Iron and Steel, Manganese, Lithium and Gold – as a producer of primary and refined products, and exporter of high value-added downstream products
- develop policies that ensure overall investment-attractiveness in the sector, including promotion of Ghanaian ownership and participation in large scale mining
- drive world-class sustainability, with stringent plans for community engagement and local content, and streamline environmental, social and governance reporting requirements, and
- ensure a balanced and sustainable approach to responsible mining, so our forest reserves and water bodies are adequately protected against exploitation and pollution, and preserving them for the benefit of the next generation

### 10.4.1. Mineral Resources and Small-Scale Mining

Small-scale mining is the economic engine of mining communities. It has created over one million jobs, and currently contributes an average of 40% to the total gold produced in Ghana. It has great potential to create even greater wealth and several millions in additional jobs if properly structured, incentivised, financed, and supported with technical expertise, in both mining and value addition. This informs the next NPP administration's strategy to usher in a **Golden Age for Ghanaian-Owned Small-Scale Mining for Wealth and Jobs**, the core elements which are:

- **investing** in the geological investigation of mineralised zones from 2025 to 2029, **to derisk small-scale mining**, and **ensuring that concessions with proven reserves earmarked for small-scale miners are 100% Ghanaian owned**

- **establishing a Minerals Development Bank** to finance viable local mineral projects, including small scale mining, as well as Ghanaian mining and mining services firms
- **ensuring that the application, processing, and licensing of small-scale mining ends at the Minerals Commission**, and that traditional authorities and District Assemblies are involved in licensing processes
- **facilitating the establishment of Common-User Processing Facilities** at various mining districts in the country
- **reducing withholding tax for small-scale gold exports to 1%** to discourage smuggling and increase tax receipts
- **continuing to leverage the Minerals Income Investment Fund (MIIF)** to finance the growth of viable Ghanaian extractive resource-focused firms and projects through equipment and operations financing. Currently \$30 million has been earmarked and will be scaled up to \$50 million in 2025
- **adequately resourcing the Precious Minerals Mining Company (PMMC) to establish more gold buying centres** at small-scale “Mine Gates” to purchase all mined gold
- **incentivise the development of a domestic minerals enterprise ecosystem for value-added products both for the domestic market and export by:**
  - setting up a Precious Minerals Incubator Programme, with support from the Ghana Chamber of Mines and PMMC, to kick-start skills training and small jewellery-making businesses to add value to mineral resources, create jobs, and position Ghana as a jewellery hub
  - in addition to PMMC, support Ghanaian jewellers to make and certify gold coins for sale, and
  - explore the issuance of Gold-backed investment instruments, and encourage financial institutions to actively participate in its trading
- **establishing an integrated traceability system** for mineral resources, and

- **fully decentralising the Minerals Commission and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** to ensure they are present in all mining districts

### Addressing Galamsey

We will **address the Galamsey challenge**, to enhance the operations of small-scale miners and protect the environment by:

- **making available the proven reserves data** by Geological Survey Authority to small-scale miners to reduce incidence of trial-and-error digging
- **simplifying the small-scale mining licensing regime** through amendment of the law to ensure that the entire licensing regime from application to its granting ends at the Minerals Commission to prevent delays, which leads to indiscriminate mining
- **scaling-up the use of the mercury-free gold Catcher machine technology** for profitable and sustainable small-scale mining and others
- **constructing settlement dams** to ensure safe storage and treatment of discharge water from the gold-catcher machine operations
- **aggregating and utilising the Reclamation Fund** to implement land reclamation programmes, and
- **using a comprehensive and collaborative approach to ensure strict adherence to our mining laws and regulations** to prevent illegal and improper mining practices such as mining near or in river bodies, the use of prohibited chemicals or equipment for mining, and environmental degradation

### Large-Scale Mining Sector

Consistent with our plan to further maximise the benefit of the mining sector to the generality of Ghanaians while ensuring protection of investors, we will:

- **boost State and citizens participation in large-scale mines** by encouraging large scale mining companies to progressively list on the Ghana Stock Exchange
- **recalibrate the mining fiscal regime towards improved benefits by:**
  - developing Stability and Development Agreements to make them more meaningful and impactful to both the Chamber of Mines and the state
  - improving local content policy to ensure that Ghanaian service providers in the mining sector become competitive, and
  - completing the Local Content Value Chain by using 1D1F companies to manufacture the items reserved for supply by Ghanaians
- **incentivise the large-scale mining sector**, and make Ghana a high-priority exploration destination by deferring Value-Added Tax (VAT) on exploration and related activities until there is a successful find
- **ensure value addition through local beneficiation of mineral resources under** which an LBMA-certified refinery will be complemented by a policy requiring that, progressively, all gold mined in Ghana be refined before export
- **outdoor Ghana's Critical Minerals Strategy**, which defines the value chain from exploration to recycling and how Ghanaians can benefit from each, and
- **accelerating the implementation of** the aluminium, iron and steel industries value chain through the Ghana Integrated Aluminium Development Corporation (GIADEC) and Ghana Integrated Iron and Steel Development Corporation (GIISDEC)

In particular, in line with the Integrated Aluminium Industry (IAI) master plan, and in partnership with the private sector, implementation will drive industrial transformation, including the operationalisation of new bauxite mines, the building of an alumina refinery, and the modernisation and expansion of the Valco Aluminium Smelter,

resulting in the creation of thousands of new jobs, and a significant contribution to GDP.

### **Diamonds and Other Gemstones**

We will promote and support the local diamond industry with investment, and by building the capacity of diamond winners, as well as encouraging and training women and youth in engraving, cutting, and polishing of diamonds and other gemstones.

#### **10.4.2. Lands, Forestry, and Water Resources**

Ghana's lands and forests are major sources of food, income, livelihood, and employment for many. Over the past eight years, the Akufo-Addo-led administration has rolled out several significant policies and legislative reforms to improve the overall performance of the sub-sector, and to effectively deploy these resources to support national development, poverty reduction, and the promotion of equity and sustainability.

However, rapid population growth, climate change, and urbanisation, have continued to exert considerable pressure on land and forest resources, and risk undermining efforts to realise the full range of benefits from policies and reforms in the sector.

To fully meet these challenges, we need stronger, well-resourced, and accessible institutions to ensure inclusive land rights, enforcement of regulations, and operational efficiency. For example, land title registration currently requires high precision survey and physical monumentation to take effect. A change in regulation, which enables the adjustment of survey standards, will facilitate the extension and coverage of land title registration to many districts across the country. Similarly, digital interoperability, connectivity and the use of remote sensing data, can simplify the delivery of land administration services, improve the quality of land records, and maximise the use to which these records can be put.

To achieve these objectives, we will, under a Bawumia presidency:

## Lands

- **pass the Legislative Instrument for the Land Act 2020**
- **decentralise title registration by extending services to regions outside Accra and Kumasi**, with roll out tied to availability of updated base maps in each location. This will include:
  - physical decentralisation involving setting up Lands Commission offices at the District level
  - establishing more satellite client service units, and
  - strengthening the availability, reliability, and security of online services to clients
- **continue to invest in digitising the sector to create a digital database for land transactions.** This will enhance the integrity of land records, and promote public confidence in the land administration system
- **in consultation with traditional authorities, and in collaboration with Parliament, introduce laws to allow the state acquire land for public use by lease.** This will create a two-way benefit, for families and the State, by relieving the State of frontloaded, hefty compensation payments while ensuring families receive periodic (annual) payments, the benefits of which will be transgenerational
- **enhance collaboration with the Judiciary** to deal with the backlog of land cases in the courts
- **enhance the efficiency of Customary Land Secretariats** to make them more efficient in the delivery of basic land administration services, and minimise land related disputes at the local level, and
- **promote collaboration among relevant state agencies and customary landowners to establish land banks** to facilitate access to land for commercial, agricultural, industrial, and mixed uses

## Forestry and Water Resources

To protect our forests and water resources, and to ensure a business-friendly environment for forest related businesses, we will:

- reforestation:
  - » enhance the national efforts to reforest the country to respond appropriately to climate change
  - » target 30,000ha of degraded areas for reforestation and plantation development annually
  - » establish 1,000ha of bamboo and rattan plantations annually for watershed protection and plantation development, and
  - » provide tree seedlings and plantain suckers in a minimum of 1000 communities to enhance the national reforestation and plantation development programme
- collaborate with the private sector to provide modern equipment for the timber industry, as currently available machinery are designed for large diameter logs
- support the protection of the remaining natural forests and biodiversity hotspots, and
- protect and preserve our water resources by:
  - vigorously protecting both surface and underground sources by enforcing the provisions of the Water Use Regulations
  - reviewing and strengthening the Water Buffer Zone Policy for implementation
  - collaborating with riparian neighbours to protect and ensure sustainable utilisation of transborder water sources, notably the Volta River, and
  - resourcing the Water Resources Commission to effectively manage all major river Basins in Ghana

### 10.4.3. Environment

Over the past eight years, the Akufo-Addo-led administration has continued to take steps to strengthen Ghana's environmental action plans, with a focus on the Ghana Climate Change Policy Master Plan, Climate Smart Agriculture Action Plan, Energy Transition Plan for the energy sector, Ghana REDD+ strategy for forestry, and the E-Vehicle policy, among many others.

We have also, over the last few years, in partnership with the private sector, commenced the construction of 16 Integrated Recycling and Composting Plants (IRECOPs) and Medical Waste Treatment Facilities, of which 7 have been completed and commissioned in Accra-Greater Accra Region; Goaso-Ahafo Region; Sefwi- Wiawso in the Western North Region; Dambai-Oti Region; Ho- Volta Region; Damongo-Savannah Region, and Wa – Upper West.

Challenges remain however, including declining natural vegetation cover, climate change impacts and air, water and plastic waste pollution.

The quality of our environment, the integrity of our natural forest, biodiversity landscape, and water resources, as well as quality of air and scenery, have suffered decline over the years.

Under the next NPP administration, we will offer bold solutions, in addition to the policies already developed, to ensure a safer, greener and cleaner environment, revolving, broadly, around:

- increase in the enforcement of environmental standards and compliance across all sectors through a well decentralised, empowered and resourced Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)
- taking advantage of every climate finance opportunity to tap into green funds to implement programmes that build our adaptation and resilience to climate impacts, and ensure climate prosperity for us, and
- accelerated management of public waste and sanitation, and improving efforts towards a cleaner Ghana, particularly urban solid waste management.

Specifically, a Bawumia presidency will:

- **strengthen environmental compliance, coordination and enforcement by:**
  - strengthening the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to effectively improve collaboration, coordination and implementation of environmental compliance policies across all sectors, and to facilitate the setting up of environmental courts to adjudicate on environmental crimes, and
  - adopting and implementing Environment, Sustainability and Governance (ESG) regulations which will include working with public and private sector entities to adhere to sustainability goals through mandatory reporting of performance of operational and financial activities
- **deepen climate finance opportunities to build resilience by:**
  - building institutional capacity and exploring innovative climate financing and carbon trading under the framework of Ghana's Climate Prosperity Plan, and the general implementation of our Nationally-Determined Contributions, under the Paris Agreement
  - cooperating with, and supporting the full establishment and growth of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), and
  - continuing to develop capacity of all relevant stakeholders using our annual allocation of the Readiness Fund from the Green Climate Fund, as well as building on negotiated bilateral agreements and other carbon credit opportunities within the climate finance space, to speed up our green transition and economic growth efforts
- alongside the implementation of the Nationally-Determined Contributions, **implement the National Adaptation Plan** and ensure its full integration into the activities of District Assemblies
- **continue to facilitate the establishment of more private-sector led e-waste collection and recycling facilities, and**
- **accelerate our engagement in climate and green energy issues by:**

- enhancing our participation in global efforts on climate change and green energy, to align with current global trends and demands
- committing to active engagement in international fora on sustainable development and climate change, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), to secure technical and financial support for Ghana's green growth, and
- advocating for global environmental justice, ensuring that developed countries fulfil their commitments to support developing nations in adapting to and mitigating the impacts of climate change

## 10.5. PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

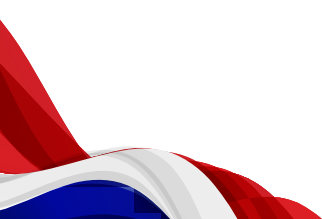
### 10.5.1. Housing

As outlined in Chapter 5.3, our housing strategy involves rolling out a National Housing Programme (Housing For All) which will incentivise the private sector to close Ghana's housing gap within ten (10) years, providing Ghanaians with **access** to decent, affordable housing.

To further these objectives, we plan to implement additional institutional, regulatory, and operational reforms, including:

- **Land Administration and Spatial Planning**
  - fully equipping and supporting the Land Use and Spatial Planning Authority (LUSPA) (formerly Town and Country Planning) as the Central Authority to develop comprehensive National Master Plans, to provide better control of settlement expansion around the country
  - reviewing the ongoing pilot digitisation of the permitting and building control process with a view to enhancing it for full national roll out, to ensure efficiency and minimise abuse, including facilitating partnerships between MMDA's and built-environment professionals to run the digitised building permit systems

- **Incentivise the creation of Land Banks for Housing Development by** promoting collaboration among relevant state agencies and customary landowners, to establish land banks for housing developments
- **Urban Regeneration**
  - review and implement the Urban Development policy
  - encourage vertical (re)developments to promote a return of residents back into the inner city, and to slow down urban sprawl, and
  - encourage property owners to offer their properties as equity in redevelopment schemes, to improve property values and earnings. Comprehensive Structural Pre-Planning will precede all regeneration schemes to target specific socio-economic outcomes including Wealth Creation (increased revenue for property owners and investors), Reduction in Rush-hour Traffic and Increased Time at Work (Productivity, Expenditure on Fuel, Recreation Time, Family Time etc.)
- **Rural Renewal**
  - review and implement the Rural Development policy
  - ensure a reasonable allocation of property taxes for rural renewal
  - enforce adherence to Spatial Plans in all rural settlements and that housing and all relevant facilities are captured in updated spatial plans and concurrently developed to enhance the living conditions of rural dwellers, and
  - promote appropriate technology using locally available materials to help reduce building costs and, in pursuit of this, collaborate with professional institutions, researchers and industrialists to develop Standard Public Buildings and house types, production systems and practical application methods



### 10.5.2. Roads and Highways

Road Transport is the predominant mode of transportation for Ghanaians, facilitating over ninety percent of both land freight and passenger traffic in Ghana. Over the past eight years, under the Akufo-Addo-led administration, Ghana has witnessed the greatest enhancement of the road network in the Fourth Republic, increasing from 78,000km to nearly 100,000km with the resulting road condition mix of 60% good, 30% fair, and 10% poor at the end of 2023. These network improvements include the construction of 12 multi-tier interchanges in Accra, Tema, Kumasi, Tamale and Takoradi, 6 of which have been completed with the others ongoing. Furthermore, there has been an investment of GH¢16 billion in road network expansion and improvement, including the construction of over 2000km of asphaltic overlay, as well as the piloting of performance-based road construction through the rehabilitation and maintenance of over 12,000km of roads.

The next NPP administration, under a Bawumia presidency, is committed to maintaining this momentum and further enhancing the road network's safety, efficiency, and sustainability. To achieve these objectives, we will:

- **Oversight**
  - ensure implementation in full the newly passed National Roads Authority (NRA) Act, by facilitating the integration of the Ghana Highways Authority, Department of Urban Roads, and Department of Feeder Roads into the NRA
- **Planning of the network**
  - complete ongoing projects, while undertaking a review of existing plans to ensure effective implementation, and
  - forge stronger collaborations with the relevant stakeholders to ensure that axle load limits are strictly observed to protect the road pavement, and enforce road safety measures to reduce road accidents



- **Road Network Development**

- strategically integrate the road network with other modes of transportation to enhance national connectivity, and to support spatial development, agriculture, industries, trade and services sectors, including tourism
- aggressively pursue the programme to dualize all national “N” routes linking the national capital to other regional capitals as well as linking all other regional capitals. This will include continuing the sectional dualization of the Accra - Kumasi, Accra - Takoradi and other urban links, such as Santasi – Ahodwo – Asokwa and Suame – Mampongten in the Kumasi Metropolis, among others, and
- facilitate the commencement of the Abidjan-Accra-Lagos Corridor Highway project under the main Trans African Highway Programme

- **Contract Administration**

- support institutional, legislative, and regulatory arrangements to strengthen inter-agency coordination within the road sector
- strictly enforce the law restricting project procurement to the availability of funds
- empower professionals within the road sector, ensuring their active participation in decision-making processes, and holding them accountable for their actions
- promote third-party monitoring of road sector activities using competent sector professionals, and
- undertake a review of the Contractor Classification System, in tandem with schemes to improve Ghanaian local contractor capacity, to foster growth in the construction sector

- **Road Maintenance**

- fully-implement and expand the District Road Improvement Programme (DRIP), under which local governments have been supplied with equipment to help maintain roads in their various areas

- implement an Economic Road Improvement Programme (ERIP), to link roads to growth impact areas such as tourist sites, production centres (industries) and marketplaces
  - implement a robust, nationwide programme to ensure all-year-round maintenance activity using Output and Performance Based Road Contracts (OPRC) schemes to reduce the need for costly rehabilitation
  - incorporate climate resilience and sustainability practices to extend the longevity of road projects, and strictly enforce the Contract Clause regarding Defect Liability Periods for contractors on road projects, and
  - continue to develop and implement innovative solutions, including intelligent traffic control systems, to reduce bottlenecks and urban congestion to improve traffic flow
- **take the following actions to ensure the sustainability of road maintenance financing from the Road Fund:**
    - all new projects awarded under the Fund will be for routine or periodic maintenance interventions with a maximum completion period of 12 months
    - at least 70% of the Fund's resources will be allocated towards routine and periodic maintenance
    - review current contracts under the Fund and move those that are not maintenance related to the Consolidated Fund, and
    - adopt a broad-based tolling policy as a financing mechanism for road maintenance

### **10.5.3. Water Resources, Water Supply and Sanitation**

Access to safe potable water, and safely managed sanitation services, is vital for public health and essential for unlocking productivity, economic growth, and the prosperity of our population. Human related activities resulting in over-extraction, overconsumption and global warming are however threatening our water resources. Climate change, manifesting in the form of extreme weather events such as heat waves, droughts, floods, and freshwater pollution from

unregulated mining activities are stark reminders of the precarious balance of managing our water resources.

The NPP has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to safeguarding our nation's water resources and ecosystems over the past 8 years under the Akufo-Addo-led administration. We have invested more than US\$2 billion in water supply, creating thousands of direct and indirect jobs, and increasing basic water supply access in the country to 88%, as the government strives towards achieving Water for All, including several water projects in Yendi, Tamale/Damongo, Techiman, Sunyani, Wenchi, Sekondi/Takoradi, and Keta, to increase the capacity of the existing water supply systems.

The Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA), which largely runs rural water supply, has also initiated reforms to sustain the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sub-sector. The transformations implemented so far includes the reconstruction of water infrastructure in 190 communities to improve water delivery. CWSA runs over 40,000 boreholes and 1,022 small-town water systems. The NPP administration has also opened the Rural Subsector to private-sector investments as small water enterprises, and there are currently about 4 such enterprises operating over 100 small and micro water systems in the country.

The next NPP administration, under a Bawumia presidency, will ensure that the objective of economic growth, industrialisation and urbanisation will be achieved without compromising our nation's water resources and freshwater ecosystems. We will undertake the necessary structural reforms aimed at revolutionising the management and delivery of WASH services across Ghana, on the principles of the closed-loop circular economy that emphasises the 3Rs; Recycling, Reuse, and Recovery, to instil efficiency, effectiveness, and economic viability within the sector.

Specifically, we will:

- **Water Resources Management**
  - vigorously protect both surface and underground sources by enforcing the provisions of the Water Use Regulations

- review and strengthen the Water Buffer Zone Policy for implementation
- aggressively implement the National Water Policy (2024), to deal with the current challenges in the water supply sector
- implement an integrated management approach for the nation's water resources, emphasising interdisciplinary collaboration and pooling of expertise, and
- strengthen the Water Resources Commission to focus on its core mandate
- **Planning and Maintenance**
  - rigorously enforce spatial and physical planning regulations and controls, to improve the network design, which is crucial in ensuring equitable and efficient water distribution
  - prioritise the rehabilitation of the largely dilapidated water distribution network around the country
  - carry out the planned expansion projects in Tarkwa, Begoro, Weija, Kpong, Hohoe, and Atebubu, among others, and
  - strengthen CWSA to take up 400 new non-performing water systems for reconstruction, install solar farms to provide solar energy as part of the energy mix to reduce its operational cost, implement technology improvements to achieve targets, and complete all water systems under construction by end of 2025
- **Private Sector Participation in potable Water Delivery Value Chain**
  - carry out the necessary reforms to attract private capital to establish new water systems, and reconstruct existing ones to be able to meet the growing demand of the increasing population
  - incentivise the private sector to create large water treatment plants on the Afram River and the lower part of the Volta River, downstream of the Kpong Dam, to utilise the massive volumes of clean water flowing into the sea

- **Sanitation Infrastructure**

- institute fundamental structural reforms aimed at harmonising the management and delivery of Sanitation services across Ghana
- promote the rapid upscaling of household toilet facilities with private sector involvement, facilitate the formation of the first National Household Sanitation Association in Ghana, to promote the billion-dollar household toilet industry
- facilitate the provision of small-bore sewers (Condominium Sewerage), and decentralise wastewater treatment plants, especially in high-density low-income areas in the major cities, similar to the system completed at Ashaiman under the GAMA Project
- institute a large-scale national campaign to promote Source Separation and responsible behaviour in sanitation. This will be supported by the enforcement of sanitation regulations and by-laws, and
- support Schools and Healthcare facilities with biogas digesters to improve sanitation, recover waste and generate energy to become self-sufficient and possibly go off-grid

### **10.5.4. Stormwater Drainage, Flood Control and Coastal Protection**

Frequent flooding across the country, especially in the major cities, continues to cause widespread devastation, negatively impacting livelihoods, destroying critical infrastructure, and property, and causing needless loss of life. It is estimated that flooding costs the country approximately 2% of GDP annually. To address these challenges, the NPP has introduced a comprehensive flood risk management plan that encompasses stormwater management, coastal erosion, and fluvial flooding.

Under the National Flood Control Programme, 10km of new drains have been constructed and 36km of drainage channels have been lined, bringing relief to many communities across the country. In addition, we have invested US\$350 million to deal with the perennial

flooding in the Odaw Basin, through the World Bank-funded GARID project.

We have also spent about GH¢2.5 billion on coastal protection works. Several projects, including works in the coastal towns of Komenda and Elmina, are almost complete, while similar projects in Dixcove, Aboadze, Cape Coast, Anomabo, James Town, Nungua and Ningo Prampram are at advanced stages of completion. The next NPP administration will complete these ongoing projects to promote Seafront developments. The construction of hospitality projects along the coastlines will create thousands of job opportunities for the youth in the beneficiary communities. The second phase of the Cape Coast, Blekusu, Aboadze and Dansoman projects, among others, will be prioritised to enhance the local economy of our coastal communities.

We have also established the **Ghana Hydrological Authority** and funded the Hydrological Fund.

The next NPP administration, under a Bawumia presidency, will continue to prioritise investment in flood mitigation, and to implement innovative basin-wide flood mitigation solutions across the country. Specifically, we will:

- accelerate the on-going massive investments in the National Flood Control and Coastal Sea Defence programmes to protect the communities, enhance tourism potential and the creation of jobs
- strengthen the Ghana Hydrological Authority, to enact legislation and regulations that will stem uncontrolled physical developments by enforcing land use and spatial planning controls within drainage basins
- leverage developments in technology, digitisation, and AI to deliver Flood Resistant and Resilient Infrastructure, put in place effective flood mitigation measures, and proactively deploy early warning systems to better inform and prepare the citizenry for impending extreme events

- use both enforcement and incentives to ensure property owners adhere to building codes requiring a proportion of a compound to be grassed, and
- encourage the use of local labour, materials and Nature Based Interventions that facilitate the early capture and reuse of stormwater runoff through rainwater harvesting as well as localised infiltration approaches to affect groundwater recharge, improving biodiversity, and ecological sustainability.

### 10.5.5. Maintenance of Public Infrastructure

A Bawumia presidency will invest in regular, proactive maintenance of all public facilities, to ensure the preservation and enhancement of the lifecycle of public infrastructure projects. Specifically, we will:

- **implement a policy requiring budgeting for, and making specific allocations towards the maintenance of every new build for the first few years**, as well as a maintenance schedule covering same, until it is included in the general maintenance budget
- **revive and resource, including with modern equipment and state-of-the-art workshops, the Public Works Department (PWD)**, to be the primary government agency responsible for maintenance of public infrastructure across the country. Resources will also be invested in recruiting and retaining artisans, including carpenters, welders, masons, mechanics, and electricians, among many others
- actively promote and adopt a decentralised approach to maintenance of public infrastructure by charging the MMDAs, through the revived and resourced PWD, to be responsible for ensuring proper maintenance of public facilities, and
- encourage schools to teach and instil the importance of a maintenance culture at an early age

## 10.6. TRANSPORTATION

The transportation sector, under the Akufo-Addo-led administration, has seen significant investments and improvements over the past eight years across all the four sub-sectors: roads, rail, maritime and aviation. Among the significant milestones is the increase in the road network from 78,000km to nearly 100,000km, the development and operationalisation of the Tema to Mpakadan Railway Line, which is now 98% complete and estimated to be fully completed before end of 2024, major infrastructure upgrades and remodelling of existing facilities at the Tema Port, including the construction of a dedicated container terminal, the construction of twelve (12) Coastal fish landing sites, and the expansion of the Prempeh I International Airport, Kumasi (Phases II and III) and Yakubu Tali International Airport, Tamale (Phase II), and the Rehabilitation of the Sunyani Airport (Phase I).

Under the next NPP administration, we plan to rationalise the supervisory structure of the transport sector to bring all key segments under one oversight Ministry, enabling us leverage the interconnections to solidify our strategy of making Ghana the transportation hub in the region, to leverage new green technologies and digitalisation to reduce the cost of public transportation as part of reducing the cost of living for Ghanaians, and to create jobs for the youth.

### 10.6.1. Road Transport

Over the past eight years, under the Akufo-Addo-led administration, we have updated the National Transport Policy (2008) to address implementation challenges, and to provide for new and emerging modes of transportation. In addition, we produced a National Electric Vehicle Policy to guide the uptake of Electric Vehicles (EVs) in the country, enacted a National Road Safety Authority Act, and National Road Safety Regulations to enhance the mandate of the National Road Safety Commission to ensure compliance with road safety measures, policies and procedures, as well as regulated road transport services, constructed bus terminals on the Adenta-Accra BRT route to promote a road-based mass transportation system,

and renewed the fleets of Metro Mass Transit Limited (MMTL), Intercity STC Coaches Limited (ISTC) and private sector operators.

Our major focus for road transport over the next few years is to reduce the cost of public transportation primarily by facilitating private sector investments in EV transportation and infrastructure, digitising key aspects of the sector, implementing an auto spare parts marketplace centered around hubs like Abossey Okai, Suame and Techiman to ensure fairly-priced parts for non-EVs, implementing a "Flat Tax for Importers" of spare parts to ensure fair-pricing of auto parts, significantly expand the Gold-For-Oil (G40) programme, and bring Ghana's Driver Licensing regime in line with global standards. By facilitating the strategic development of an EV charging infrastructure network for example, we will accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles, and, by deploying digitisation tools, we will greatly improve efficiency and safety as well as reduce costs.

To achieve these objectives, we will:

- **implement fully the National Electric Vehicle Policy (EV Policy)** to guide the uptake of electric vehicles in the country
- **facilitate the procurement of electric buses** for public and private sector transport operators for mass public transport on both inter-city and intra-city routes
- **ensure lithium battery plants are established locally** to make batteries affordable
- **develop a framework to allocate reliable and affordable power pricing** to aid the development of the emerging Lithium industry
- **ensure a rigorous energy mix**, especially solar, for easy charging of EV batteries
- **train and license local technicians** to service and maintain EVs
- **to accelerate EV adoption and address a key infrastructure gap**, we will promote the manufacturing and assembly of EVs locally, enhance incentives for EV imports, and implement a comprehensive strategy for developing a nationwide electric vehicle charging infrastructure through the following initiatives:

- **expanding the scope of existing incentives** to cover local manufacturing of EVs
- **incentivising fuel station owners** to enable the installation of EV charging units at strategically selected fuel stations. This will leverage existing infrastructure and ensure convenient charging options for EV users along major travel corridors
- **facilitating the nationwide rollout of EV charging stations** in collaboration with various stakeholders, including:
  - » partnering with private investors, energy companies, and Ghanaian businesses to encourage investment in charging infrastructure development
  - » supporting individuals who wish to establish charging stations in towns and cities, fostering a more decentralised network, and
  - » prioritising the installation at key locations, including along major highways, at rest stops, and within towns and cities
- **complement our EV strategy by:**
  - implementing a contra-flow traffic system to ease traffic congestion at rush hours, and Smart Traffic Management Systems, involving the installation of smart traffic signals systems that adjust traffic signals in real-time based on traffic conditions to improve traffic flow
  - regularise their use by amending the regulations to allow Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies to develop by-laws on the use of motorcycles and tricycles for specified purposes, including for paying passenger services
- **expand the G40 programme** to stabilise fuel prices
- **revise policy for Driver Licenses** to now be renewable only after ten years, and
- **work with road transport sector stakeholders** to develop commercial transport businesses and enhance passenger safety, comfort and convenience, including:

- setting standards and guidelines for operations, vehicles and drivers
- developing transport maps for all regional and district capitals for routes and stops
- providing bus station stops information online
- gradually deploying cashless payment systems
- issuing permits to operators
- developing a public transport bus numbering and colour coding system to be used with transport maps
- providing bicycle-friendly infrastructure to encourage cycling as a primary mode of transport, and
- establishing dedicated bus lanes for high occupancy vehicles, with elevated platforms for level boarding and accessibility

### 10.6.2. Aviation

Our vision for this sector is to make Ghana the aviation hub of the West African region to promote tourism and trade, and to create employment. A Bawumia presidency will, among others:

- **intensify our efforts to set up a national airline through a public-private and technical partnership**
- **transit from manual immigration processes to a digital E-Gate Solution, and from a manual or semi-automated aviation and immigration data records to a fully automated and digitised system via the Advanced Passenger Information/ Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) solution at all airports**
- **construct a multi-storey car park at Kotoka International Airport's (KIA) T3, to include commercial office spaces and restaurants, among others**
- **extend the Departure Concourse at KIA (T3)**
- **continue the construction of the Northern Apron at KIA to increase the number of aprons for aircraft parking, and extend the existing taxiway by 400 metres**

- **revamp KIA's Runway Overlay by** constructing Runway Shoulders, improvement of Airfield Drainage, and supply and installation of LED Aeronautical Ground Lighting (AGL) Systems
- **dedicate KIA's Terminal 2 (T2) to regional flights**, as part of the broader strategy of making Ghana a regional aviation hub
- **implement Phase IV of the Prempeh I International Airport, Kumasi**
- **develop PII, Kumasi as a passenger aviation hub**
- **extend PII, Kumasi's runway to accommodate wide- bodied aircraft**
- **further develop Sunyani Airport (via Phase II)** by extending the runway to allow for all domestic airlines to ply the Sunyani route
- **commence the development of the Cape Coast Airport**, for which funding has been secured under the Korean \$2 billion facility
- **in collaboration with the private sector, build an airport in the Upper East Region**
- **facilitate the establishment, by the private sector, of a Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility at the Tamale Airport**, to develop it into an aviation cargo, horticultural cargo, and logistics hub
- **incentivise airlines to import aircraft parts through Ghana, and**
- **implement cutting-edge technologies**, to improve air traffic management systems and passenger processing platforms, to enhance efficiency and passenger experience

### 10.6.3. Railways

Railways are a relatively faster, cost-efficient alternative mode of transportation for bulk loads and transporting people. The NPP views the development of our rail network as a major strategic move to link the north and the south of our country, unlocking growth

opportunities and accelerating equitable development all over Ghana.

Consistent with our strategic view, we have, over the past eight years, invested heavily in railway planning and infrastructure to achieve our long-term objectives for the sector. This includes:

- **reviewing the 2013 Railway Master Plan to serve as a guide for the systematic development of a new standard gauge railway network across the country**, leading to a Revised Railway Master Plan (2020) which is now under implementation
- **developing and operationalising the Tema to Mpakadan Railway Line**, to provide an inter-modal transport system for the movement of passengers and cargo from the Port of Tema to the northern parts of the country via the Volta Lake transport system. Progress is as follows:
  - railway infrastructure is 98% complete and estimated to be completed before end of 2024, and
  - two (2) units of Diesel Multiple Unit (DMU) Trains are under procurement
- **developing the Western Railway Line on standard gauge in line with the revised Railway Master Plan (2020)** to provide an efficient, effective and sustainable mode of transport for the haulage of minerals and cargo, as well as mass transit of passengers as follows:
  - brownfield main line (Takoradi to Kumasi - 267km)
  - brownfield branch line (Dunkwa to Awaso - 73km), and
  - greenfield extension (Awaso to Eduadin through Nyinahini - 123km)

**Status of implementation is as follows:**

- Kojokrom to Manso (22km) - 93% completed – to be completed in November 2024
- Takoradi Port, Manso to Huni Valley (78km) - 16% completed
- Adum to Kaase (6km) - 1.89% completed

- Feasibility Studies of Brown field Branch line has been updated and being packaged to attract investments, and
- PPP and other external funding sources are being explored to complete the remaining sections
- **developing the Eastern Railway Line on standard gauge in line with revised Railway Master Plan (2020)**, to provide an efficient, effective and sustainable mode of transport for the haulage of minerals and cargo, as well as mass transit of passengers as follows:
  - brownfield main line (Accra, Tema to Kumasi - 294km)
  - brownfield branch line (Bosuso to Kyebi - 25km)
  - greenfield branch line (Ejisu to Eduadin - 30km)

**Status of implementation is as follows:**

- Feasibility Studies have been updated and being packaged to attract investments
- PPP and other external funding sources being explored to complete the development of the brownfield and greenfield lines
- **developing the Central Spine Railway Line from Kumasi to Paga on standard gauge in line with revised Railway Master Plan (2020)**. It is a greenfield main line (Kumasi to Paga - 672km). The status is as follows:
  - Feasibility Studies have been completed and being packaged to attract investments
  - PPP and other external funding sources being explored to complete the development of the greenfield line
- **developing the Ghana-Burkina Faso Railway Line from Tema, through Mpakadan, Paga to Ouagadougou (Greenfield)** i.e. Tema to Mpakadan - 97km; and Mpakadan to Ouagadougou - 1,018km - To provide an efficient, effective and sustainable railway interconnectivity between Ghana and Burkina Faso, for the haulage of minerals and cargo, as well as, mass transit of passengers

### Status of implementation

- Tema to Mpakadan (97km) - 98% completed and targeted to be completed before the end of the year
- Feasibility Studies have been completed for the Mpakadan to Ouagadougou section and being packaged to attract investments, and
- PPP and other external funding sources being explored to complete the development of the greenfield line
- **developing the Trans-ECOWAS Railway Line from Aflao to Elubo (Greenfield) - 550km** to provide an efficient, effective and sustainable mode of transport with connectivity with neighbouring Togo and Cote D'Ivoire for the haulage of minerals and cargo, as well as, mass transit of passengers

### Status of implementation is as follows:

- Feasibility Studies have been completed and being packaged to attract investments
- PPP and other external funding sources being explored to complete the development of the greenfield line

Building on this, the next NPP administration, under a Bawumia presidency will:

- **through partnerships with private sector investors**, develop the railway network across the country based on the Master Plan, with strategic focus on the Western and Eastern Lines in the medium term. The two lines, which are of high economic importance, will be prioritised for development and completion
- **acquire the new standard gauge rolling stock** to operationalise the new standard gauge railway lines being constructed
- **invest in enhancing the haulage capacity of the Ghana Railway Company Limited (GRCL)** to turn it around commercially
- **develop new standard gauge railway network** across the country in line with the Railway Master Plan, and
- **collaborate with key stakeholders**, including the Ministry of National Security, to curtail illegal mining activities on-going along the rail corridors

#### 10.6.4. Maritime

Ghana's vast coastline, stretching almost 600 km, sea area exceeding 200,000 square nautical miles, and 5000 km of inland waterways, have not been fully utilised for marine transport and related services. We need to sustainably develop our maritime industry to create prosperity for our people, and eventually, to establish Ghana as a hub in the region.

The NPP administration, over the past eight years, have made good progress towards achieving this objective, including:

- **undertaking major infrastructure upgrades and remodelling of existing facilities at Tema and Takoradi Ports** to serve the oil and gas industry. Takoradi Port has been equipped with five loading and unloading arms. This has enabled “CapeSize” vessels to now dock at the Takoradi Port
- **construction of a 600m quay** with a 16m draft and related terminal facilities, for a multipurpose terminal at the Takoradi Port is underway
- **construction of a dedicated container terminal** at Tema Port
  - currently, a four (4) berth dedicated container terminal, access road and related facilities have been completed
  - installation of state-of-the-art, 3 Ship-to-Shore (STS) cranes and 12 Rubber Tyre Gantry (RTGs) Cranes, were completed in 2023, and
  - paving works to expand the terminal coverage area is ongoing and targeted to be completed in December 2024
- **construction of twelve (12) Coastal fish landing sites** at Dixcove, Moree, Mumford, Winneba, Senya Breku, Gomoa Fete, Osu, Teshie, Keta (complementary facilities for fisher folks), Axim, Ekumfi Otum, and Abanze
- **construction of two (2) Fishing port projects at Elmina and Jamestown.** Construction of fishing port at Elmina completed and operationalised. Construction of Jamestown fishing port is completed and will be operationalised before the end of the year, and

- **implementation of a paperless systems at the ports**

To further accelerate the growth of the maritime sector, the next NPP administration, under a Bawumia presidency, will:

- **improve cost of doing business at the Ports by:**

- conducting a comprehensive review of port tariffs, fees and charges levied by shipping agents and other stakeholders, and exploring opportunities for optimising these costs to reduce the cost of doing business at the ports
- implementing measures to rationalise and standardise port fee structures, eliminate unnecessary surcharges and administrative charges, and benchmarking tariffs against ports in the region, including Togo
- enhancing transparency and accountability in port fee management through regular audits and oversight mechanisms
- review taxes on transit cargo, to further promote trade with the Sahelian regions, and
- explore the introduction of tailored flat rates, for specific cargoes at the port, for example, for 20 to 40-foot container of spare parts

- **create a Maritime Free Zone in Ghana's waters for ships in transit to engage in Ship-to-Ship and bunkering services by:**

- **designating a ship-to-ship zone** where ship-to-ship (STS) transfer and bunkering services can take place
- **designating an Anchorage Zone** where ships can anchor while waiting for their turn to utilise the ship-to-ship zone, and
- improving security surveillance and operations within our waters, especially the maritime free zone

- **promote Vessel Ownership by** the private sector

- **incorporate Marine Transport as part of an integrated and multi-modal transport in Ghana by** conducting feasibility studies on Short-Sea-Shipping (SSS) to assess the prospects of sea transport routes to and from Keta, Tema, Accra, Cape

Coast, Takoradi, Elubo and other coastal destinations to move freight and passengers

- **River transport**

- develop an Inland Waterway Master Plan by assessing the feasibility and viability of Ghana’s potential navigable inland waters, in addition to the Volta Lake Transport System, and
- passing of the Cabotage Bill into Law by end of Q2 of 2025 to regulate and enhance inland and coastal shipping by Ghanaian businesses to create jobs for Ghanaians

- **develop a Small Craft Industry**, to promote and implement the construction of various types of watercraft and the transition from wooden watercrafts to other materials like steel, aluminium, and fibreglass

- **promote local manufacturing of life jackets for watercraft owners, crew and passengers by:**

- implementing the local content and local participation law, and
- providing incentives on raw materials necessary for production to make them affordable

- **strengthen the maritime training sector** by offering tailored courses in public and private institutions

- **launch diplomatic ties with nations and international organisations** through mutual understanding, bilateral, and multilateral agreements on marine affairs for shared maritime prosperity

- **initiate a “Youth in Seafaring” programme**, to train workers for the marine sector including cooks, hairdressers, barbers and other professionals for the maritime sector, and

- **as part of our Flag State control framework, gradually transition Ghana from a closed registry country to a flag of convenience.** This will enhance our cabotage law, generate revenue and create jobs



## 10.7. PUBLIC SAFETY & SECURITY

A fundamental driver of economic growth and development, the prosperity of citizens, the flourishing of Ghanaian businesses, and the safety of Foreign Direct Investments (FDI), is the level at which we are able to assure public safety and security within Ghana and in our Region, and our contribution to global security.

Over the past eight years, under the Akufo-Addo-led administration, Ghana has emerged as a beacon of stability in the Region, amid Regional security challenges, including insurgencies and political instability. We must protect the state and our citizens, and, as threats evolve, address them head-on by strengthening institutional frameworks, encouraging regional cooperation, and building local resilience, with an emphasis on increased investments in security and intelligence to safeguard stability.

It is not by chance that Ghana is an oasis of peace in a Region of chaos. This has been achieved, among others, by:

- **substantially augmenting the personnel strength across all Security and Intelligence Agencies (SIAs), including:**
  - increasing the number of the Ghana Police Service by almost 40% (from 33,213 in 2016 to 46,116) in 2023
  - more than doubling the number of personnel in the Fire Service from 7,000 in 2016 to 15,000 by 2023
  - more than doubling Ghana Prisons Service personnel from 5,431 in 2016 to 11,472 in 2023
  - more than tripling the Ghana Immigration Service workforce from 4,270 in 2016 to 13,646 in 2023, and
  - significantly increasing the staffing levels of the Narcotics Control Commission (from 553 to 927), National Commission on Small Arms and Light Weapons (from 13 to 75), Ghana Refugee Board (from 32 to 52), National Peace Council (from 17 to 67), Gaming Commission (from 47 to 70), and National Disaster Management Organisation (from 6,101 to 6,185)
- **making significant investments in the infrastructure of various Security and Intelligence Agencies (SIAs), including**

Phases I and II of the Barracks Regeneration Project, the Transformation Agenda of the Ghana Police Service, and the Military Housing Project for the Ghana Armed Forces. Since 2017, 1,000 housing units have been constructed to support the accommodation needs of security services personnel, and two additional data centres and Emergency Command Centre (ECC) facilities in Kumasi and Tamale have been established

- **significantly upgrading the operational capabilities of the Ghana Police Service** by providing 933 vehicles and 4,202 motorbikes, thereby improving their mobility and presence across the country
- **installing 11,000 CCTV Cameras and 65 automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) sites** to ensure public safety and security from 2017-2022
- **revolutionising police operations by:**
  - establishing and operationalising the Regional Formed Police Units (RFPUs) in 144 communities, and
  - creating specialised units like the Cold Case Unit, and Missing Persons Unit
- **supporting our troops and implemented reforms in the military, including:**
  - complete settlement of outstanding arrears amounting to US\$13 million for all peacekeeping personnel, alongside the initiation of prompt payment practices
  - increased the United Nations Peacekeeping Troops contribution allowances from US\$30 to US\$35 per soldier per day, significantly boosting troop welfare and morale, and
  - amendment of L.I. 1332, which extended the run-out date from twenty-five (25) years to thirty (30) years for the 'Other Ranks' within the Ghana Armed Forces. This extension has provided enlisted personnel with extended service opportunities and led to the creation of new ranks

- **implementing legislative reforms and frameworks to strengthen the SIAs, including:**
  - the comprehensive review of outdated legal frameworks within the security sector and introduction of new ones, including the Security and Intelligence Agencies Act, 2020 (ACT 1030), National Signals Bureau Act, 2020 (ACT 1040), Security and Intelligence Agencies Regulations, 2023 (L.I. 2471), the National Security Strategy, the National Framework for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, the National Integrated Maritime Strategy, and, to enhance the welfare of service personnel, the National Pensions Act, 2023, (Act 766) was amended to include the Ghana Police Service, the Immigration Service, the Prison Service, the National Fire Service, and other SIAs under CAP 30
  - passage of the Narcotics Control Commission (Amendment) Act, 2024 (Act 1100), a significant step in fortifying the legal framework governing narcotics control. Similarly, the approval of the Narcotics Control Commission (Cultivation and Management of Cannabis) Regulations, 2023 (LI 2475), further solidified Ghana's regulatory framework in addressing cannabis and other illicit drug-related issues, and
  - the prioritisation and institutionalisation of cybersecurity through the passage of the Cybersecurity Act 2020 (Act 1038), which led to the establishment of the Cyber Security Authority (CSA), and
- **pursuing several strategic security initiatives, including:**
  - tackling various internal security challenges, notably land and chieftaincy disputes, including the resolution of the long-standing Dagbon crisis
  - establishing the Joint Operations Committee (JOC) in accordance with the National Security Strategy to enhance collaboration among Directors of Operations from all SIAs
  - upgrading the Analysis Unit of the Ministry of National Security to a fully-fledged directorate known as the Department of Intelligence Analysis (DIA), which has become a cornerstone in shaping Ghana's national policies and strategies

- establishing the National Counter-terrorism Fusion Centre in line with the directives of the National Framework for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism
- taking proactive measures to address human security challenges that could potentially contribute to radicalisation and terrorist recruitment, including directing investments into critical infrastructure projects such as roads, boreholes, bridges, and culverts in areas like Pusiga, Dormaa East, Yariga, and Sangabuli, and in a livelihood empowerment programme, and
- successfully mobilising blacksmiths across the regions into associations, through the Commission of Small Arms and Weapons, to curb illicit small arms production and redirecting skills toward lawful economic activities in conflict-prone communities

A Bawumia presidency will continue to protect public safety and security, while building on the high levels we currently enjoy, by, among others, implementing a **Safe Neighbourhoods Programme (SNP) that will ensure:**

- **lighted communities**
- **expanded anti-crime camera systems** into neighbourhoods by rolling out an additional 50,000 CCTVs, and body cameras
- **strengthen police mobility** and effectiveness
- **recruit at least 20,000 security** personnel by 2028
- **the proper regulation and monitoring of private security firms**, as well as standards, training, and licensing of individual security guards by enacting a Private Security Industry Act
- **integration of cybersecurity knowledge at all levels of education** to cultivate a cyber-aware culture from an early age
- **investment in Cybercrime Investigation and Prosecution** by establishing a National Digital Forensics Laboratory, reviewing the Evidence Act 1975 to update the legal framework for digital evidence admissibility, creating a Cybercrime Prosecutions Division and specialised courts to prosecute and try cybercriminals

- **protecting the privacy and digital rights of citizens** by pursuing legislative measures and public awareness campaigns to safeguard individual privacy and ensure the responsible use of digital technologies, includes the implementation of the National Child Online Protection (COP) Framework to safeguard the online experiences of minors, and
- **committing to building upon the successes achieved since 2017, particularly in terms of staff welfare reforms within the security sector. This includes:**
  - initiatives to increase staff strength, enhance access to healthcare, and improve accommodation facilities for personnel
  - legislative and organisational reforms within SIAs will be fast-tracked, including the National Arms Commission Bill, the Prisons Service Bill 2023, the Parole System Bill, and the Alternative Sentencing Bill
  - investing in expanding the fleet of operational vehicles for various SIAs, including acquiring additional Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs), Armoured Infantry Fighting Vehicles (AIFVs), Troop Carrier Vehicles (TCVs), motorbikes, quadbikes, and ambulances, among others. This investment aims to improve operational readiness and mobility across all security agencies
- **deliver, or continue to deliver, on the following:**
  - establishment of the Security and Cybersecurity Funds as outlined in the National Security Strategy 2020 and Section 29 of the Cybersecurity Act, 2020, respectively. These funds will serve as a crucial financing resource aimed at enhancing the nation's resilience against emerging threats, including terrorism, cyber insecurity, maritime challenges as well as prevailing security issues such as land disputes and chieftaincy conflicts
  - development of an Integrated Database Management System (IDMS), to enhance efficiency and effectiveness by centralising security-related information and enabling informed decision-making

- pursue an enhanced Barracks Regeneration Programme to provide improved accommodation for the military and other security agencies
- modernise the Ghana Air Force and Navy, in tandem with the Ghana Armed Forces, ensuring they are equipped with advanced technology and equipment, and
- embark on nationwide sensitisation programme to train individuals as volunteers in disaster management, particularly in disaster-prone areas. These volunteers will serve as the first point of call, and assist NADMO officials in case of disasters

## 10.8. FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

How Ghana is perceived abroad, the engagements we have with our foreign partners, the positions we take in international conferences and multilateral processes, and the agreements that are reached on issues, from development finance through nuclear non-proliferation to climate change, have everyday consequences for ordinary Ghanaians and the country's future. It also has consequences for our national interests, including our ability to protect our citizens abroad and their right to travel, migrate or repatriate their earnings.

Changing global circumstances and alliances, especially in the context of ongoing global geopolitical challenges, requires our foreign policy approach over the next few years to be even more deliberate, calculated, and strategic. The cross-cutting issues of global governance, international peace and security, and sustainable development, must be coordinated across the Presidency, Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), the decentralised authorities, as well as with stakeholders such as CSOs, FBOs, the media, and the private sector.

Under a Bawumia presidency, we will concentrate our efforts and resources at achieving our objectives under the following areas:

### 10.8.1. Foreign Affairs

- **Foreign Missions and Regional Integration**
  - optimise spend by our Diplomatic Missions by sharing cost with other African countries e.g. sharing diplomatic services to reduce the cost of administrative functions and provisions of services such as Consular services
  - implement the recently established Consular Fund in order to improve Consular services to Ghanaian citizens abroad in emergency situations, and
  - in light of the security threats in the Region, enhance our collaboration with neighbouring countries to provide a safe environment for our citizens' to be secure and to pursue business in a peaceful environment
- **To ensure full participation of dual citizens in the growth and development of Ghana**
  - **remove restrictions imposed on dual citizens which bar them from holding certain public offices in Ghana, if not done before the final session of Parliament** this year, by amending Article 8 of the Constitution as well as sections of the Citizenship Act while ensuring basic duties and responsibilities of dual citizens, such as taxation and minimum residency requirements, are met
  - **accelerate the implementation of the Diaspora Engagement Policy, launched in 2023**, which is aimed at enhancing diasporan contribution to national development, and
  - **invest in attracting tourists from new markets, like Asia**, in addition to traditional sources like Europe and the USA, to increase our share of the global tourism market
- **Enhanced collaboration with the Caribbean region**
  - to promote and protect the interests of Ghana in our international relations, we will be intentional in broadening and deepening relations with countries with significant population of African descent

- further improve Ghana’s engagement with the Caribbean by establishing diplomatic missions and leveraging shared historical and cultural ties. This strategy aims to unlock economic opportunities, deepen diplomatic relations, and collaborate in addressing global challenges. The establishment of more Ghana Embassies in the Caribbean will propel trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchanges, creating jobs and promoting sustainable development in both regions, and
- extend our Caribbean relations to include non-Anglophone countries
- **Ghanaians in Diplomacy**
  - strengthen the Candidatures Unit at the Ministry by improving on the database of potential candidates to ensure Ghanaians are encouraged and supported to take up positions in international organizations, and
  - improve bilingual skills within the Ministry and across government to strengthen our teams engaged in diplomacy at all levels, and to engender better relations in the immediate region
- **pursue a “Women in Diplomacy” programme for Ghanaian women to take more leadership roles in international organisations, and**
- **Digitisation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration** will continue, to improve efficiency and digital security in consular services (passport & visas), as well as diplomatic communications
- **Implementing an e-visa policy** for all international visitors to Ghana, to make visa acquisition fast and convenient
- **Implement** a visa-free policy for all nationals of African and Caribbean countries visiting Ghana
- **Peace and Security**
  - continue to build on the Multi-Stakeholder Working Group model that facilitated Ghana’s recent tenure on the United Nations Security Council, and tap into the expertise of

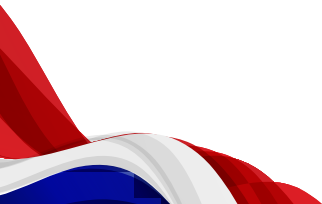


research and academic institutions, including the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), on issues that threaten regional & global security, including representation on the Foreign Affairs Advisory Board, which deliberates on matters of Peace & Security in the Region and Africa

- work with The ECOWAS commission and the African Union Commission (AUC) in accordance with United Nations Security Council Framework Resolution 27/19 to present an Accra Initiative-led counter terrorism operation under the African Union (AU) for United Nations Security Council mandate and funding from United Nations (UN) assessed contributions, and
- promote in international forums, the importance of investing in community resilience, especially women's entrepreneurship, businesses and infrastructure development, as part of a counter-terrorism strategy to prevent recruitment and radicalisation in vulnerable communities

- **Modernisation of the Foreign Affairs Ministry**

- **Foreign Service:**
  - » create a Ghana Foreign Service (GFS), by amending Article 190(1)d of the constitution, in line with best practices such as those of India, United Kingdom (UK), and Nigeria, as the service delivery function of the Ministry. This structure separates the policy formulation and service delivery functions, enabling the Ministry to focus on its core constitutional mandate of formulating and implementing Ghana's foreign policy
  - » the functional bureaux of the Ministry, including the passport office, consular, protocol, legal & treaties, information and public affairs will all come under the GFS upon creation
- **Foreign Service Institute:** significantly increase the resources available to the Institute to effectively prepare Ghana's pool of diplomats for the changing world of diplomacy by building their skills in key global issues, and



- **Coordination of Foreign Policy:** the Ministry will take the lead to ensure overall coordination and coherence on integrated subjects before relevant intergovernmental bodies such as SDGs and Climate Change

### 10.8.2. Enhanced Economic and International Trade Diplomacy

Under a Bawumia presidency, our diplomatic resources will be targeted primarily towards enhancing our economic and trade diplomacy. We will, in addition to other initiatives:

- **reform the infrastructure for economic diplomacy at home and in Ghana's Missions abroad** to enable better targeting and aggressive pursuit of trade and investment opportunities in key, existing as well as other potential markets, especially emerging markets. This will be achieved through enhanced training and re-orientation, production of annual trade and investments briefs, SOPs, and innovative technology, including online marketing and establishment of joint business networks. Bilateral/multilateral economic cooperation would be further strengthened through targeted initiatives such as trade agreements, Bilateral Investment Treaties (BIT) and Double Taxation Agreements (DTAs)
- **use multilateral platforms, including the annual meetings between Africa and its partners, to fix the “African premium”** through financial ratings which tend to overestimate risk in Africa
- **pursue potential membership** of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- **improve Physical and Digital Infrastructure for Trade and Industry:** to ensure the effectiveness of our economic and trade diplomacy, we will invest in improving the infrastructure and services that underpin international trade, including:
  - Investment in Digital Connectivity: Establishing the Ghana Trade Information Hub to enhance data connectivity with the African Trade Observatory, ensuring seamless access to trade data and analytics
  - Special Economic Zones Policy: The creation of geographical areas where businesses can flourish without the burden

of paying selected taxes will facilitate industrialization and trade of goods and services, and

- Building Infrastructure for Business Growth: Sector- focused business enclaves will be set up across the country to provide infrastructure to support businesses, improving existing infrastructure, particularly warehouses, roads linking major trade corridors, and ports





# 11. TO LEAD IS TO SOLVE

*“For me, to lead is to solve”*

**Mahamudu Bawumia**

We have demonstrated throughout this manifesto a clear understanding of what keeps you and other Ghanaians awake. The proposals we have laid out are designed to provide solutions to everyday issues for all Ghanaians and the business community.

Solutions to deliver business growth; jobs and prosperity; for enriching the lives of citizens; and for a demonstrable, problem-solving leadership of integrity.

We have also shown how our Presidential Candidate, Dr Mahamudu Bawumia, is the man who can bring values-based, selfless leadership with integrity to the job as President, and as a solution-oriented action man who gets things done.

A man who brings people together, irrespective of faith, gender, age, ethnic origin, economic or social status. A visionary man who understands what will drive future growth and prosperity and has been leading from the front in ensuring the youth of this country can fully participate in the global economy.

He is a leader who means business, and has demonstrated he is not afraid of hard work.

We ask for your support and your votes to elect him as President, and also elect our NPP Parliamentary candidates, to translate these well-thought-out plans into reality.

With the help of the Almighty God and your votes, we can together, build a Ghana of possibilities and prosperity. Please join us to make it real.

**It is possible!!!**



