

MINISTRY OF GENDER, CHILDREN AND SOCIAL PROTECTION



SOCIAL PROTECTION SECTOR PERFORMANCE ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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MESSAGE FROM THE HONOURABLE MINISTER

Ghana has a long history of putting in place social protection measures to support poverty reduction and inclusive development.

The Government of Ghana recognizes that to ensure citizens are guaranteed relief from destitution and for them to realize their basic rights, relevant social protection programmes must be strategically and consistently pursued. This is why His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo introduced additional interventions such as the Free Senior High School (SHS) policy, Planting for Food and Jobs (PFJ), and Nation Builders Corps (NaBCo) among others to complement the ongoing efforts toward poverty reduction and bridging the inequality gap.

As the sector minister charged with the responsibility of ensuring policy formulation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of Gender, Children and Social Protection issues within the country, I will continue to ensure that social protection programmes are implemented in an effective, efficient, properly targeted, coordinated and sustainably financed to help create a society where **no one is left behind** in the national growth agenda.

The delivery of social protection interventions requires the participation and support of a range of stakeholders. The Ministry appreciates the various partnerships contributing to the implementation of social protection programmes in the country. We particularly appreciate the support of the World Bank, the Department for International Development (DFID), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the European Union (EU), the World Food Programme and all the UN systems in the delivery of social protection in Ghana.

We look forward to the continued interest and support of all stakeholders as we pursue our vision of creating a harmonious society in which the survival and development of the sexes, children, the poor, the vulnerable, and persons with disability are guaranteed.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF LEADERSHIP OF THE MINISTRY



PHOTOGRAPH OF MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL PROTECTION INTER-SECTORAL TECHNICAL (SPISTC) COMMITTEE



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ghana developed a Social Protection Policy in 2015 in response to the need to have a modern system of social protection that has the potential to significantly address income inequalities, provide equitable development, and increase access to social services for the extremely poor and vulnerable. Social Protection is defined in the policy as “a range of actions carried out by the state and other parties in response to vulnerability and poverty, which seek to guarantee relief for those sections of the population who for any reason are not able to provide for themselves”. The policy provides an institutional framework for coordination and stakeholder collaboration in monitoring and ensuring accountability in the implementation of Social Protection programmes in the country.

The Social Protection Annual Report is a product of the Social Protection Policy which underscores the importance of a national monitoring and evaluation system in the implementation of Social Protection programmes in the country. The Social Protection Annual Report 2022 provides information on the implementation status of social protection activities in the country by highlighting the achievements, challenges, and the way forward for the year under review. The report is organized into four (4) chapters.

Chapter One (1) highlights the poverty and inequality situation in Ghana, indicating the need to provide social protection services to the vulnerable. Chapter Two (2) highlights the coordination of social protection in Ghana, emphasizing the mandate and functions of the Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection and Social Protection Directorate. It also outlines the coordination activities of the directorate in the year under review. Chapter Three (3) provides detailed information on the performance of social protection programmes undertaken by the individual partner Ministries and Agencies. This includes their objectives, achievements, challenges, and the way forward. Chapter Four (4) concludes the report and provides an outlook for the year 2023. This Chapter makes a case for the need to strengthen systems for effective and efficient social protection service delivery.

Some of the major achievements highlighted by the Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection include the development of a National Social Protection Coordination Framework to make the coordination of social protection programmes and activities more efficient. Another major milestone is the establishment of a complaint resolution system known as the Single Window Citizen Engagement Service (SWCES) to facilitate and improve upon the resolution of grievances concerning the implementation of social protection programmes in the country. One important challenge in the coordination of Social Protection programmes by the Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection is the absence of a Social Protection Law. However, the Ministry will continue to deepen and foster collaboration and coordination amongst social protection agencies to improve linkages and complementarities.

The Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) Secretariat increased the household coverage from 344,023 households in 21 Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies to 346,019 households as of the end of December 2022. One of the challenges facing the LEAP Secretariat is the delay in the release of funds. However, the Secretariat will continue to sensitize the public on LEAP programme processes and will enrol additional beneficiaries to attain the target of 350,000 beneficiaries in 2023.

In the year under review, the Ghana School Feeding Programme Secretariat with support from the World Food Programme successfully reviewed the 2016 National School Feeding Policy. Inadequate funds and lack of legislative support are the main challenges facing the National Secretariat of the School Feeding Programme. The need for sustainable funding and the provision of adequate logistics to facilitate monitoring of the programme cannot be overemphasized. In 2023, the National Secretariat of the Ghana School Feeding Programme will identify specific farmers and match them to caterers in selected communities to facilitate effective and efficient purchases at the local level.

The National Health Insurance Scheme initiated to secure financial risk protection against the cost of healthcare services for all residents in the country, enrolled over 17 million beneficiaries at the end of December 2022. The main challenge facing the National Health Insurance Authority is inadequate financial and logistical support. The NHIA will increase the number of active memberships in the scheme to over 19 million by the end of 2023.

The achievements chalked in the implementation of the country's Social Protection programmes in 2022 are generally satisfactory given the challenges or constraints faced by the implementation partners. However, with appropriate legislative support where necessary and sustainable funding arrangements the implementing partners are more likely to their achievements and performance in the ensuing years.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Dr. Afisah Zakariah, Chief Director

On behalf of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, I would like to express our gratitude to all stakeholders whose immeasurable efforts led to the successful compilation of this report.

We acknowledge the invaluable input from the agencies implementing the five flagship Social Protection programmes, other social protection implementing institutions, and members of the Social Protection Inter-Sectorial Technical Committee (SPiSTC). Special mention to Md. Abena Annobea Asare, Ag. Director of Social Protection at the Ministry who also doubles as a co-chair of the SPiSTC, and her staff for their hard work and dedication to ensure this report sees the light of day.

The Ministry is also very much appreciative of the unrelenting efforts of all partners and anticipates their continued support—Ministries, Departments and Agencies, Parliament, Office of the Head of Local

Government Service (OHLGS), Academia and Research Institutions, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Media, Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) and Development Partners (notably the World Bank, UNICEF, Department for International Development, European Union, World Food Programme etc.) in the delivery of social protection in Ghana.

We look forward to continued engagement with all stakeholders (including the Private Sector Institutions) to strengthen Ghana's social protection system to sustainably address the situations of poverty and vulnerability and ensure improved well-being of all Ghanaians across the life cycle.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AEA	Agricultural Extension Agents
AHME	Africa Health Market for Equity
AWPB	Annual Work Plan and Budget
BCC	Behavioural Change Communication
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Development Project
CAPEC	Center for the Alleviation of Poverty, the Environment and Child Support
CHRAJ	Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice
CLASS	Complementary Livelihood and Asset Support Scheme
CLIC	Community LEAP Implementation Committees
COTVET	Council for Technical and Vocational Education Training
CSIR-CRI	Center for Scientific and Industrial Research-Crop Research Institute
CSIR-SARI	Center for Scientific and Industrial Research-Savanna Agricultural Research Institute
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CSPSP-GH	Civil Society Platform on Social Protection, Ghana
DAs	District Assemblies
DASH	Daily Attendance Sheet
DCIT	District CLASS Implementation Teams
DFID	Department for International Development
DLIC	District LEAP Implementation Committees
DSPC	District Social Protection Committee
DSWO	District Social Welfare Officer
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EU	European Union
FASDEP II	Food and Agricultural Development Policy II
FAW	Fall Army Worm
FBOs	Faith-Based Organizations
FCUBE	Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education
GES	Ghana Education Service
GESP	Ghana Employment and Social Protection
GhiPSS	Ghana Inter-Bank Payment and Settlement System
GLDB	Grains and Legumes Development Board
GLST	Ghana Luxemburg Social Trust
GNHR	Ghana National Household Registry
GoG	Government of Ghana
GPS	Ghana Police Service
GPSNP	Ghana Productive Safety Net Project
GSFP	Ghana School Feeding Programme
GSOP	Ghana Social Opportunities Project
HHs	Households
IEC	Information, Education and Communication

IFC	International Financial Cooperation
IMC	Independent Monitoring Checks
IMCC	Inter-Ministerial Coordinating Committee
IPC	Inter-Process Communication
ISD	Information Service Department
JSDF	Japanese Social Development Fund
KG	Kindergarten
LEAP	Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty
LIPW	Labour Intensive Public Works
LMS	LEAP Management Secretariat
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MELR	Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations
METASIP	Ghana's Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan
MIS	Management Information System
MLGRD	Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
MMDAs	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
MMDCEs	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MoGCSP	Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MOWAC	Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs
MT	Metric Tons
NAFCO	National Food Buffer Stock Company
NBSSI	National Board for Small-Scale Industries
NDPC	National Development Planning Commission
NHIA	National Health Insurance Authority
NHIF	National Health Insurance Fund
NHIS	National Health Insurance Scheme
NSPP	National Social Protection Policy
NSPS	National Social Protection Strategy
OHLGS	Office of the Head of Local Government Service
OFSP	Orange Flesh Sweet Potato
PDO	Project Development Objective
PLWHIVAs	People Living with HIV/AIDS
POC	Project Oversight Committee
PSP	Payment Service Provider
PTC	Project Technical Committee
PWD	Persons with Disability
PWID	Persons with Intellectual Disability
RCCs	Regional Coordinating Councils

RDCU	Rural Development Coordinating Unit
RSWO	Regional Social Welfare Officer
SADA	Savannah Accelerated Development Authority
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SMC	School Management Committee
SPD	Social Protection Directorate
SPIP	School Performance Improved Plan
SPiSTC	Social Protection Inter-Sectorial Technical Committee
SSNIT	Social Security and National Insurance Trust
SWCMS	Single Window Case Management Service
SPSWG	Social Protection Sector Working Group
ToR	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Education Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WFP	World Food Programme
WIAD	Women in Agricultural Development
YEA	Youth Employment Agency

1 CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Ghana has experienced considerable economic growth with a reduction in poverty¹ from 51.7 % in 1991/92 to 24.2 % in 2012/13. The extreme poverty rate also reduced drastically from 16.5 % in 1991/92 to 8.4 % in 2012/13². However, the seventh round of the Ghana Living Standard Survey (GLSS 7) indicated increasing inequality and marginal poverty reduction, with poverty and extreme poverty rates being 23.4% and 8.2% respectively. Again, 1 in every 10 children lives in extreme poverty and is 40% more likely to be poor as compared to adults. Further, 45.6% of Ghanaians suffer from multidimensional poverty³. Also, available statistics indicate that 3 out of 4 children in Ghana are multidimensionally poor⁴.

Moreover, there is increased inequality across the regions of Ghana. The number of poor people has increased in certain areas of the Volta, Brong Ahafo (Now Bono, Bono East and Ahafo), and Western regions amongst others while poverty rates remained high (over 40%) in the Northern and Upper West regions. Poverty rates vary across the districts of the country. Available data shows that the number of urban poor has not decreased that much, with some regions including Volta, Eastern and Northern recording an increase in the absolute number of urban poor. The regional inequalities are reflected mostly in poor health outcomes, bad road networks, inadequate access to markets and services, and low school enrolment and retention rates amongst others.

Given what has been outlined above, the essence of promoting a coordinated social protection system cannot be overemphasized, as it has shown a demonstrable effect in empowering the poor and vulnerable as well as ensuring inclusive socio-economic growth of countries.

This is very critical towards achieving the objectives of the medium-term national development policy framework (2022-2025), and that of the Coordinated Programme for Economic and Social Development Policies (2017-2024), which acknowledges ‘that special provisions must be made to give all a fair chance of enjoying the benefits of a free and prosperous society with particular emphasis on strengthening social protection, especially, for children, women, persons with disability and the elderly’.

Towards this end, significant achievements have been recorded over the years in the area of targeting, case management, payment and monitoring systems, details of which have been provided in subsequent paragraphs.

¹ Cooke, E., Hague, S., and McKay, A. (2016). *The Ghana Poverty and Inequality Report: Using the 6th Ghana Living Standards Survey*.

² Ghana Statistical Service (2014). *Ghana Living Standards Survey 6*. Accra: GSS

³ Ghana Statistical Service (2020). *Multidimensional Poverty in Ghana*

⁴ NDPC, GSS & UNICEF (2019). *Multidimensional Child Poverty in Ghana*.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

The report provides information on the implementation status of social protection activities in the country by highlighting the achievements, challenges and the way forward for the year 2022.

It is organized into four (4) chapters. Chapter one (1) highlights the poverty and inequality situation in Ghana, indicating the need to provide social protection services to the vulnerable

Chapter two (2) highlights the coordination of social protection in Ghana, emphasizing the mandate and functions of the MoGCSP and Social Protection Directorate. It also outlines the coordination activities of the directorate in the year under review.

Chapter three (3) provides detailed information on the performance of social protection programmes undertaken by partner Ministries and Agencies. This includes their objectives, achievements, challenges and the way forward.

Chapter four (4) concludes the report and provides an outlook for the year 2023. The concluding paragraph makes a case for the need to strengthen systems for effective and efficient social protection service delivery.

2 CHAPTER 2: COORDINATION OF SOCIAL PROTECTION IN GHANA

2.1 MINISTRY OF GENDER, CHILDREN AND SOCIAL PROTECTION:

The Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection (MOGCSP) has the oversight role of coordination of social protection programmes in Ghana. The Ministry is primarily responsible for policy formulation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of Gender, Children and Social Protection issues within the context of the national development agenda. The Ministry also exists to ensure the socio-economic status of the vulnerable is improved through targeted social interventions. Additionally, strengthening Ghana's social protection system to better promote and protect the welfare of the poor, vulnerable and excluded populations is another key functionality of the MoGCSP.

2.2 SOCIAL PROTECTION DIRECTORATE (SPD)

The SPD is responsible for the design, harmonization, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of social protection policies and programmes for the Ministry. The SPD also leads in the development and review of a legislative framework for social protection in Ghana.

2.2.1 Achievements during 2022

In the year under review, the SPD achieved the following:

- **Development of Social Protection (SP) bill**

In 2022, there were consultative meetings with relevant stakeholders (i.e., SPiSTC sub-committee civil society organizations, management of the Ministry, as well as two working

sessions with the Attorney General's (AG's) Department and key development partners including the World Bank and UNICEF on the SP Bill. These meetings led to the finalization of the new drafting instructions for redrafting of the SP Bill by the AG's Department.

- **Coordination of Social Protection Programmes**

One of the key issues identified within the Sector Medium Term Development Plan 2018-2021 was inadequate coordination of social protection in Ghana (especially at the sub-national level). The following activities were implemented to improve coordination.

- **Development and Implementation of a National Social Protection Coordination and Complementarity Framework**

The Ministry with support from the European Union Ghana Employment and Social Protection (GESP) project developed a coordination framework with stakeholders to make coordination of social protection programmes more efficient.

- **Social Protection Sector Working Group Meetings**

The Social Protection Sector Working Group (SP SWG) brings together MDAs, CSOs, the Academia, representatives from Parliament, development partners, the Media and other stakeholders to share, discuss and identify key issues to be addressed in social protection and poverty reduction in Ghana. Under the period being reviewed, three (3) SP SWG meetings were held. These SP SWG discussed and endorsed LEAP beneficiary re-assessment strategy and 2022 annual workplan for the SPD and Ghana National Household Registry. It also discussed food and nutrition security in Ghana and the intersection between social protection and food security. The SP SWG also validated the report from the review of the short-term implementation plan for the national social protection policy and adopted the proposals for the medium-term phase.

- **Social Protection Inter-Sectoral Technical Committee (SPiSTC) meetings**

The Social Protection Inter-Sectoral Technical Committee (SPiSTC) made up of MDAs and social protection implementing agencies, was established as a key institutional arrangement at the national level to provide technical backstopping for the delivery of social protection in Ghana. This is to ensure effective cross-sectoral collaboration, coordination, monitoring, and complementarity of SP interventions.

The committee organized three out of four quarterly meetings, which helped achieve the following:

- a. Reviewed and harmonized work plans of various agencies implementing social protection.
 - b. Validated 2021 SP Sector Annual Report
 - c. Assessed the performance of SP implementing agencies
 - d. Reviewed performance against key indicators and targets for the short-term implementation of the national social protection policy
 - e. Reviewed and validated proposals and emerging issues for the medium-term
 - f. Developed a medium-term implementation plan for the National Social Protection Policy
- **Reviewed performance of the short-term implementation plan of the SP Policy**

The Social Protection Directorate held wider stakeholder engagement to assess and review the performance of the short-term targets and objectives of the national social protection policy against its implementation plan. The stakeholders included the CSOs, national and sub-national level actors, and development partners. The findings and proposals guided the development of a first draft medium-term implementation plan in December 2022.

- **Ensured a functional Single Window Citizen Engagement Service (SWCES)**

The SWCES is a critical component of the social protection coordination mechanism to improve grievance redress and referral system in the country. One key feature of the SWCES is the Helpline of Hope Call Centre which any Ghanaian can call freely (on 0800-800-800/0800-900-900) to lodge a complaint and seek redress promptly.

In 2022, the SWCES achieved the following:

1. Established and operationalized the SPiSTC sub-committee on Case Management (SCOCM) to augment grievance redress and referral services by the SWCES.
2. Facilitated the resolution of 1,076 cases out of 1,290 received, representing 83.4% resolution rate and details as illustrated in figure 1 and appendix 1.
3. Engaged agencies implementing SP programmes to strengthen grievance redress coordination and management, to address overdue cases as well as solicited input for designing an integrated referral pathway.
4. Reviewed scripts for SWCES jingles and re-designed SWCES information, education and communication (IE&C) materials to facilitate awareness creation and communication on the SWCES.
5. Reviewed Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with relevant SP Agencies to ensure timely and effective resolution of grievances.
6. Built capacity of SWCES case management officers on key thematic areas.

SWCES CASE RESOLUTION CHART

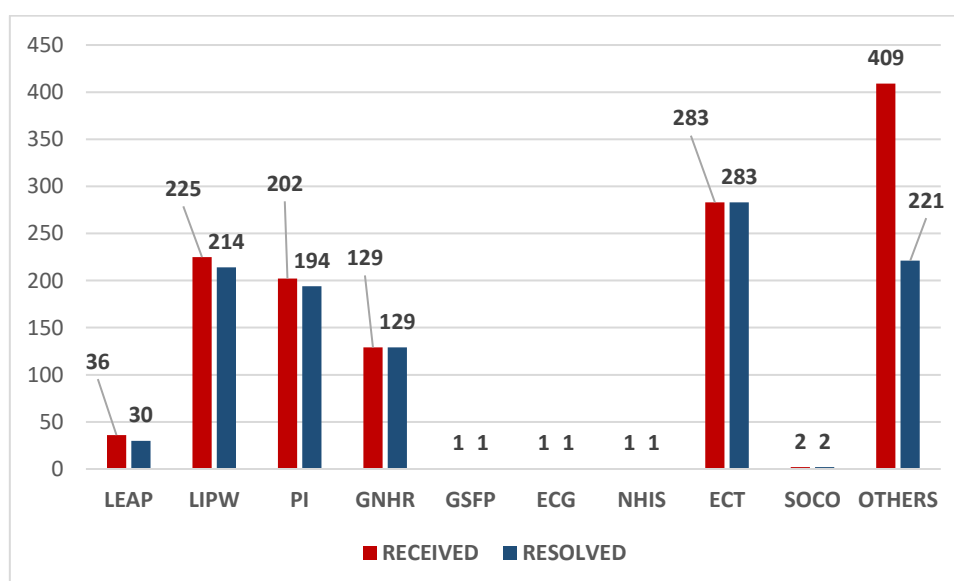


Figure 1: Distribution of cases resolved through the SWCES

- **Developed SP Monitoring, Evaluation and Management Information System (SP MEMIS)**

As part of efforts to strengthen SP systems, the Ministry developed a web-based monitoring and evaluation system referred to as the SP MEMIS Dashboard, which is expected to track key performance indicators on social protection across the flagship SP programmes. End users of the SP MEMIS dashboard were trained on its usage and operations to facilitate its implementation. Through a tailored application programming interface (API), the M&E systems of SP agencies such as LEAP, LIPW, PI, SWCES and GNHR have been interoperable with the SP MEMIS dashboard.

2.2.2 Challenges

The following key challenges were identified during the period under review:

- Absence of a coordination framework to enhance complementarity in SP services delivery at all levels.
- Inadequate financing to ensure the sustainability of SP programmes.
- Absence of shock response SP strategy
- Absence of social protection law

2.2.3 Outlook

- The MoGCSP will continue to deepen and foster collaboration and coordination amongst social protection agencies to improve linkages and complementarities.
- The Ministry will submit the SP Bill to the Cabinet by the end of 2023 for consideration.
- The Ministry will develop and operationalize a robust social protection shock response system that effectively addresses the multiple needs of the poor and vulnerable during emergencies like floods, infernos, pandemics etc.
- Develop and implement SP financing plan.
- Launch and operationalize the medium-term implementation plan for the national social protection policy by 2023.
- Launch and operationalize the SP MEMIS dashboard.
- Ensure enhanced grievance redress coordination mechanism across SP programmes,
- Intensify communication on SP and efforts to engender public participation, ownership and support for effective and sustainable SP delivery.

3 CHAPTER 3: IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF SOCIAL PROTECTION INTERVENTIONS

This chapter highlights the various social protection interventions in detail and presents their achievements and challenges during the year 2022, as well as the outlook for 2023. It focuses on flagship SP programmes identified by the National Social Protection Policy such as the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty, National Health Insurance Scheme, and the Ghana School Feeding Programme.

Additionally, other interventions and projects complement social protection efforts in the country. These include but are not limited to Planting for Food & Jobs, Productive Inclusion (PI), Ghana National Household Registry (GNHR), Planting for Food and Jobs (PFJ) Women in Agricultural Development (WIAD), Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC), Common Fund for Persons with Disability, and Ghana TVET services.

3.1 LIVELIHOOD EMPOWERMENT AGAINST POVERTY (LEAP)

3.1.1 Brief overview of LEAP

The LEAP which commenced in March 2008, is a cash transfer programme that seeks to reduce extreme poverty by smoothening consumption and facilitate access to other social services among the extremely poor and vulnerable households (HHs) in Ghana.

The programme which began with 1,654 households in 21 Metropolitan, Municipal and Districts Assemblies (MMDAs) now covers 346,019 beneficiary households (1,533,747 individuals) as of December 2022. The programme is managed by the MoGCSP through the LEAP Management Secretariat (LMS).

It currently covers extremely poor households with a focus on the following categories of vulnerable persons as depicted in figure 2 below.

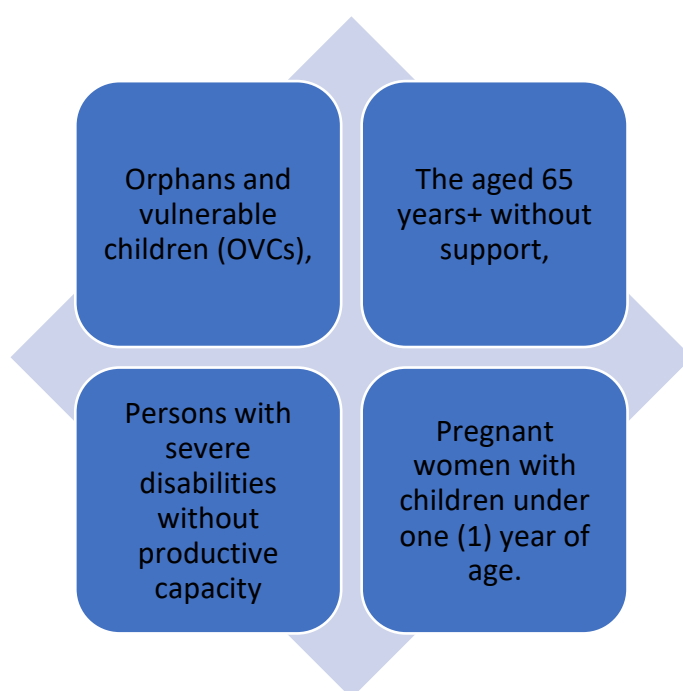


Figure 2: Eligibility category of the LEAP programme

3.1.2 Objectives of the LEAP Programme

The objective of the LEAP programme is to reduce extreme poverty by increasing consumption and promoting human capital development and access to other services among the extremely poor and vulnerable hhs.

3.1.3 Achievements

The following achievements were recorded within the period under review:

I. Payment of LEAP grants to beneficiaries

Six (6) bi-monthly cash grants (75th to 80th payment cycles) amounting to **One Hundred and Sixty-Four million, Four Hundred and Sixteen Thousand, Two Hundred and Eleven Ghana Cedis and Forty-Five Pesewas (GHS164,416,211.45)**⁵ inclusive of service charges were successfully disbursed to beneficiaries. Since the inception of the programme, eighty (80) payment cycles have been conducted. Table 1 below summarizes the Households paid and the corresponding amount per cycle.

Table 1: Summary of Households paid and the corresponding amount per cycle

CYCLE	TOTAL HHS ON LEAP	TOTAL HHs PAID	AMOUNT CHARGES	WITH
75 th and 76 th	344,185	344,082	54,726,079.74	
77 th and 78 th	344,389	344,282	54,764,403.16	
79 th and 80 th	345,434	345,323	54,925,728.55	



II. Expand coverage of the LEAP programme

An additional 1,996 HHs were enrolled on the programme bringing the total number of beneficiaries HHs to 346,019 from a 2021 base figure of 344,023. The HHs currently on

⁵ LEAP Reconciliation reports, 2022

board the program comprise 1,533,747 individual beneficiaries disaggregated into 840,063 (54.8%) females and 693,684 (45.2%) males as illustrated in figure 2 below.

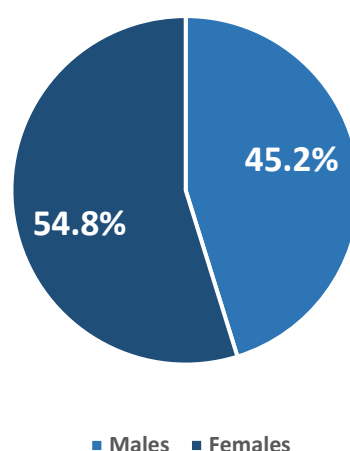


Figure 3: Sex disaggregation of LEAP beneficiaries

III. Pilot reassessment of LEAP HHs

Since the inception of the LEAP Programme, it has been expected that once households benefit from the programme over a certain period, their eligibility would be reassessed over time to determine continuous eligibility.

Once a household is found to have exceeded the eligibility threshold i.e., transitioned up the poverty ladder, they are either graduated onto other programmes such as LIPW and CLASS of PI or exit from the programme. The LMS with support from key stakeholders including Development Partners (DPs) carried out a pilot of the reassessment across ten (10) selected MMDAs from the five (5) regions of the North namely Savanna, Upper East, Upper West, Northern and North East.

The findings of the pilot reassessment are under review and are expected to inform a national scale-up planned for 2023.

IV. Strengthened LEAP Payment system.

With support from the World Bank, the LMS organized various engagements with key stakeholders to streamline the electronic payment process for better service delivery. The outcomes of these engagements have been documented and shared with the various actors along the e-payment service delivery chain.

V. Implementation of Digital Financial Inclusion indicators for LEAP:

Based on the findings of a study conducted by the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER) which identified challenges with female beneficiaries' utilization of cash transfers and digital financial inclusion among LEAP female beneficiaries, the LMS commenced the process of a pilot aimed at improving Digital Financial Inclusion (DFI) for LEAP beneficiaries. The pilot is in line with an MoU signed

between MoGCSP and the World Food Programme (WFP) in 2021. Per the terms of the MoU, WFP is expected to fund the pilot which will have both the Digital Financial Inclusion and Productive Inclusion for LEAP beneficiaries. The pilot, which is expected to be implemented in 2023 will provide lessons for scaling up.

3.1.4 Challenges

The following are some of the major challenges encountered in the year:

- Delays in the release of funds from GoG to conduct payments to beneficiaries are affecting the attainment of programme outcomes.
- Delays in cash out in some communities due to a limited number of financial institutions participating in LEAP.
- Delays in rolling out full-scale reassessment.

3.1.5 Way Forward

For the LEAP programme to achieve its ultimate goal of alleviating extreme poverty in Ghanaian society, the challenges associated with the implementation of the programme ought to be dealt with. The following are, therefore, some of the measures being put in place to address the challenges:

- i. The LMS will continue to engage stakeholders to ensure timely release of funds for payments of grants to beneficiaries
- ii. The LMS will leverage existing technological innovation to ensure efficiency in programme delivery
- iii. Explore other cash-out options to ensure timely payments in communities.
- iv. The secretariat will continue to sensitize the public on LEAP Programme processes

3.1.6. Outlook for 2023

- i. The LMS will continue with the mandate of disbursing regular bi-monthly cash grants to all extremely poor households on its register
- ii. The LMS will complete the pilot reassessment and make recommendations for a nationwide rollout
- iii. The programme will continue the validation of extremely poor data and enrol new beneficiaries to attain the 350,000 household target
- iv. Implement Human Capital Development for LEAP beneficiaries
- v. Explore other cash-out options to ensure timely payments in communities.
- vi. The LMS will continue to conduct case management field investigations and follow-ups to selected LEAP communities and districts in the southern sector

3.2 THE GHANA SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME (GSFP)

3.2.1 Background

The Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP), initiated in 2005 in the context of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme, Pillar III (CAADP III) and in response to the 1st and 2nd Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) was implemented with the overall goal to reduce short term hunger and eradicate poverty.

The Programme has expanded from 1,900 beneficiary pupils in 2005 to over 3,620,000 beneficiary pupils in over 10,900 public primary and KG schools in all 261 MMDAs across the country.

3.2.2 Objective

The GSFP is mandated to provide “one hot adequate nutritious meal each school going day to beneficiary pupils in selected public primary and kindergarten (KG) schools in deprived communities both urban and rural areas using locally grown foodstuff.”

The activities of the GSFP are guided by the following specific objectives:

- Increase school enrolment, attendance and retention
- Reduce hunger and malnutrition
- Boost domestic food production

3.2.3 Achievements

As of the end of 2022, the under-listed activities were successfully implemented:

I. Internal Audit Assessment

To ensure value for money and accountability, caterer payment data was pre-examined, payment vouchers were successfully reviewed for compliance and the Stores Audit was conducted.

II. Collation of Data for Caterer Digitalization Process

Through the Regional Offices, the GSFP collated data on caterers for the digitization process of caterer procurement, through their respective MMDAs. The dataset collated included details of Ghana cards, addresses, next of kin, etc. of the caterers. This was to ensure efficient assignment of the caterers to the various schools.

III. Operational Manual Validation

The GSFP in collaboration with UNICEF has updated and validated its Operations Manual. It is currently awaiting approval and adoption by the Ministry for implementation.

IV. Provided School Meals to Beneficiary Pupils

That notwithstanding, during the 1st week of school reopening of the 1st and 2nd terms of 2022, the GSFP instructed all its beneficiary caterers through a communique, indicating that school meal preparation will commence from the second week after the reopening of both terms.

At the end of the 2022 academic year, the non-cooking Days (NCDs) data collated from the Regional Coordinators (RCs) and Zonal Coordinators (ZCs) Reports, together with reports from National Supervisory Monitoring, MMDAs and the GES indicated that, out of the total 196 school going days, school meals were not provided for beneficiary pupils on an average of 36 days nationwide, though pupils were in school. This has resulted in payment delays, affecting caterers' access to food items, etc.

V. National Supervisory Monitoring

The GSFP conducted its Validation Monitoring in Central, and Upper West and selected MMDAs in the Greater Accra Region.

VI. Internal Review of National School Feeding 2016 Policy

With the support of the World Food Programme and the approval of the Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection, the 2016 National School Feeding Policy was reviewed by the GSFP National Secretariat.

The GSFP completed its 2021 caterer payments in 2022, that is 3rd term 2021 payments were made in 2022. In addition, the 1st term of 2022 was also paid to caterers.

3.2.4 Challenges

The following challenges were identified:

I. Absence of GSFP Legislative Instrument

The GSFP lacks legislative support resulting in delays in releases of funds for the programme's implementation.

III. Inadequate Feeding Grant

The funds released for the implementation of the programme are inadequate resulting in the provision of poor quality and insufficient meals for beneficiary pupils.

IV. Inadequate Office Infrastructure and Logistics

Logistics such as vehicles and other office equipment at the national, regional and zonal offices are inadequate resulting in ineffective monitoring.

V. Poor Cooperation with District Actors

There are inefficiencies in the implementation of the programme as a result of poor cooperation amongst stakeholders (Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives (MMDCEs), District implementation actors and others within the collaborating ministries and agencies).

3.2.5 Way Forward

The GSFP Secretariat will continue to advocate for:

- For the passage of the School Feeding Bill.
- The 5% growth growth allowance increment to budgetary allocation.
- The pegging of the feeding grant per child to 2.50ghc – 5.80ghc to ensure the provision of good quality meals for beneficiary pupils.
- For sustainable financing for the payment of caterers under GSFP whiles tax component of the feeding grant is renegotiated with Parliament.
- The procurement of vehicles for the National, regional and district offices of the GSFP is critical for the effective implementation of the programme and the provision of working funds will ensure effective daily/regular monitoring by the regional and zonal coordinators.
- For MIS for the GSFP to be set up to facilitate the collation and submission of data electronically. The GSFP will continue to engage all its relevant stakeholders and rejuvenate their roles within the implementation of the programme at all levels.

3.2.6 Outlook for 2023

1. *Provision of School Meals for the 2022 Academic Year*

Enrolment for the 2023 Academic year will be updated and submitted to the MoFEP through MoGCSP for the allocation of funds to caterers in 2023.

2. *Awareness creation of Single Window Citizen Engagement System (SWCES)*

In partnership with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP), GSFP will educate the Regional and Zonal Coordinators and caterers on the use of the Single Window platform.

3. *Investigation of Payment Claims*

The GSFP will undertake Spot checks to validate claims of underpayment, non-payment and other payment-related issues.

4. *Food Bazaar*

GSFP will organize an outdoor food bazaar to display various menus prepared by GSFP caterers.

5. *Training on the use of GSFP Operational Manual*

District collaborative actors will be trained on the implementation of the Reviewed GSFP Operational Manual.

6. *Study Tour on GSFP Operations*

The National Secretariat will embark upon a study tour to Botswana or Brazil to engage and exchange ideas on the School feeding Policy.

7. Farmer- Caterer Matchmaking

GSFP will continue to identify specific farmers and match them to caterers in selected farming communities to facilitate effective and efficient local purchases.

8. Innovative Nutrition Training in Five (5) Regions

GSFP caterers in the Western, Western North, Eastern, Greater Accra and Central Regions would be trained in innovative ways of preparing meals to prevent food wastage and eliminate inefficiency in serving meals to beneficiary pupils.

9. International School Meals Day Celebration

GSFP will celebrate International School Meals Day in collaboration with DP's to raise awareness of good nutrition for all children regardless of their circumstances.

10. Compilation of Cookbook for GSFP Ecological Menus

The GSFP will compile all ecological menus for a National Cookbook

11. Caterer Re-engagement

GSFP caterers would be reengaged, and their records updated accordingly.

12. Commemoration of African Day of School Feeding

The GSFP will celebrate the African Day of School Feeding on 1st March 2023 in partnership with some Development Partners.

13. Stakeholder Engagement in Sixteen (16) Regions

District actors from MMDAs, GES, GHS, MoFA and other relevant partners of the GSFP would be engaged to deliberate on the implementation structures and best practices for the GSFP.

14. Registration of GSFP Beneficiary Pupils on NHIS

The National Health Insurance Scheme in collaboration with the MoGCSP and the GSFP will register their quota of GSFP beneficiary pupils for the 2023 academic year.

15. Technical Review of National School Feeding Policy

The National School Feeding Policy (2016) will be reviewed and led by MoGCSP and a consultant procured by the WFP and representatives from the Attorney General's office and other technical stakeholders of the GSFP.

16. Printing and Distribution of Triplicate Daily Records Forms Booklets

To track the daily provision of school meals, GSFP beneficiary schools that are not participating in the digitalized data collection project will be provided with Triplicate Daily Records Forms booklets.

17. National Supervisory Validation Monitoring

2023 Validation Monitoring will be conducted in the Upper East, Savannah, Bono East, Bono and Ahafo Regions. These will be planned through the 1st, 2nd and 3rd terms of the 2023 academic year.

PHOTO GALLERY



Nutritious Baobab soup, a local delicacy to be served with Tuo Zaafi in Lambussie District in Upper West Region



GSFP Monitors with school pupils at NAWIE Primary and KG in Lambussie District of the Upper West Region



A pupil eating her meal in Lambussie District in Upper West Region



Pupils drinking water from boreholes after eating their meal in Lawra District in Upper West Region.



KG pupils lined up to wash hands before eating in Lawra District, Upper West Region



KG pupil at Lawra Methodist Primary school playing under death trap cooking shed, Upper West Region

3.3 EDUCATION CAPITATION GRANT FOR BASIC SCHOOLS

3.3.1 Background

In 2005, the Government of Ghana (GOG) abolished the charging and payments of all forms of levies/fees in all public basic schools in the country as a major obstacle that prevented some Ghanaian children from attending school.

The Capitation Grant Scheme instituted by GoG through the Ministry of Education (MOE) in 2005 was to particularly finance activities in all public basic schools, which hitherto were financed by parents/guardians. This major policy intervention was to aid the Government of Ghana (GoG) in fulfilling its constitutional obligation of providing Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education for all Ghanaian children.

The Scheme which started with an initial amount of GH¢ 3.00 per learner in 2005 has now increased to GH¢10.00 per learner since 2018.

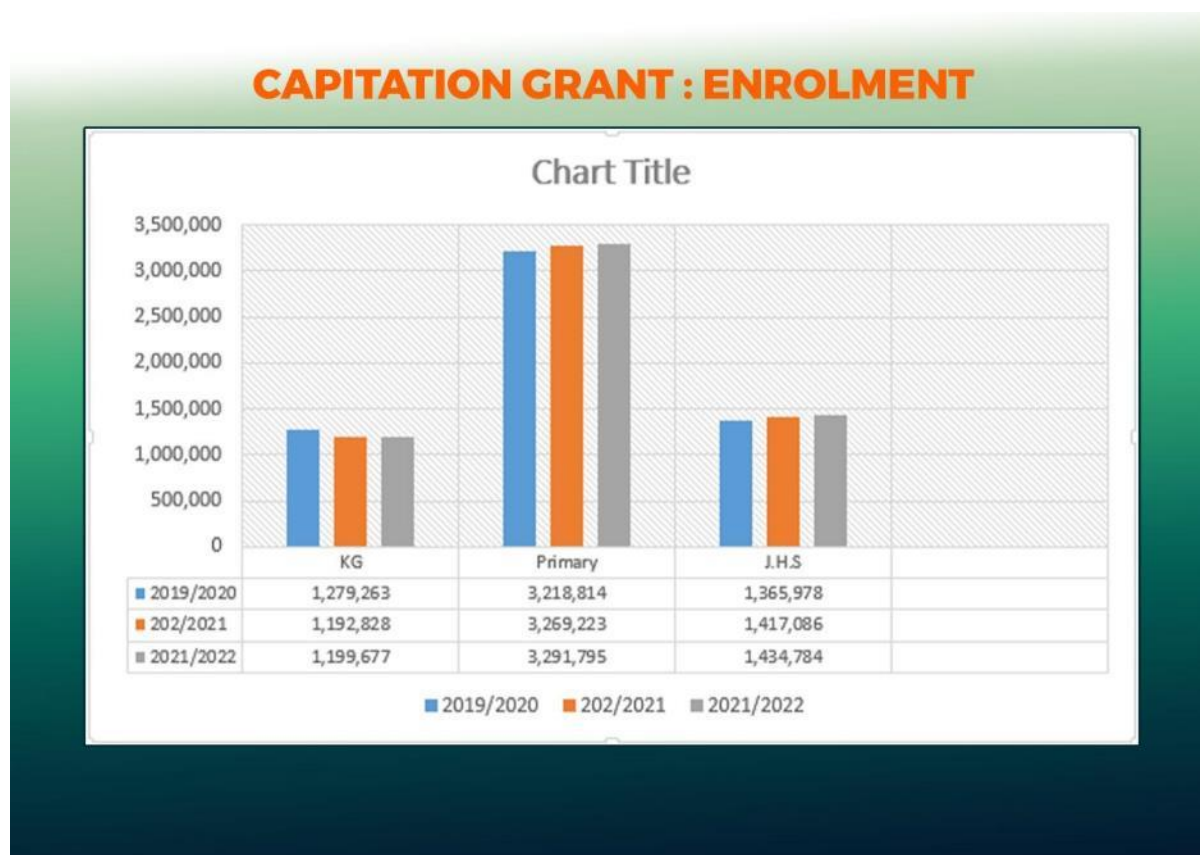
3.3.2 Objective

The key objective of the scheme is to lessen the burden of paying school fees and all forms of levies to realize the long-term policy objective of ‘increasing inclusive equitable access to and participation in education at all levels under the National Development Policy Framework. However, there are two additional objectives as illustrated below:

- The immediate objective of the Education Capitation Grant is, therefore, to relieve households, especially those who are poor, of the burden of paying fees, levies and other charges in basic schools, and encourage them to send their children to school.
- The grant is to support schools to implement their School Performance Improvement Plan (SPIP) to improve quality education delivery in public schools. The grant is, therefore, expected to serve as an opportunity to help build school-level capacity to allow for effective and efficient implementation of fiscal decentralization.

3.3.3 Achievements

The grant increased enrolment at the basic level in all public schools over the past four years as shown in the figure below.



3.3.4 Challenges

The major challenge of the scheme is the delay in the release of the grants to schools coupled with inadequate amount per pupil which makes it very difficult for the schools to implement planned activities. Way Forward

Management of the service will engage the Ministry of Finance (MoF) on the timely release of funds and also engage the MoE to increase the current amount of GH¢ 10.00 per pupil by at least 50%.

3.3.5 Outlook for 2023

To achieve our medium-term focus targets as well as improve learning outcomes at the basic level of education, the following programmes have been outlined for implementation in 2023:

- i. Provide capitation grant for 5,985,520 learners in public basic schools.
- ii. Provide feeding grants for 7,038 learners in special schools.
- iii. Embark on the right-age enrolment campaign to ensure that children are enrolled in school at the right age.

- iv. Organise sensitisation programme on school water safety in 1000 public basic schools.
- v. Organise training workshop for 265 Guidance and Counselling Officers
- vi. Conduct regular inspections and disseminate reports timely.
- vii. Organise Professional Learning Community (PLC) meetings to build the capacity of teachers in public basic schools.



Learners of Kenyasi Presby Primary School in The Ahafo Region



Learners of Kenyasi Presby Primary School In The Ahafo Region



Learners of Tanoso Methodist Basic School in The Techiman Municipal



Learners of Tanoso Methodist Basic School in The Techiman Municipal

3.4 NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME (NHIS) FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

3.4.1 Background

The National Health Insurance Scheme is a Social Health Protection Policy initiated by the Government of Ghana to secure financial risk protection against the cost of healthcare services for all residents in the country.

The NHIS was established by an Act of Parliament in 2003 (Act 650) in response to challenges posed by the “Cash and Carry” system and was reviewed in 2012 which gave birth to NHIS Act 852.

3.4.2 Objectives

The Scheme seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- a. To attain universal health insurance coverage
- b. To achieve equity in health care coverage
- c. To improve access to healthcare services
- d. To protect the poor and vulnerable against financial risk

3.4.3 Achievements for 2022

- Enrolled 17.2million as at end of 31st December, 2022)
- Registered 2.1 million as of end of 31st December 2022)
- Launched a mobile application to enrol members using Ghana cards in December, 2022

Table 2 Distribution of annual active membership categories

2022 ANNUAL ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES		
CATEGORY	%	ANNUAL ACTIVE
ADULT INFORMAL	34.1	5,857,505
AGED	4.1	702,968
CHILDREN UNDER 18	41.1	7,056,825
INDIGENT	12.1	2,071,252
PREGNANT WOMEN	4.4	751,389
SSNIT CONTRIBUTORS	3.6	623,060
SSNIT PENSIONERS	0.6	98,201
Grand Total	100	17,161,199

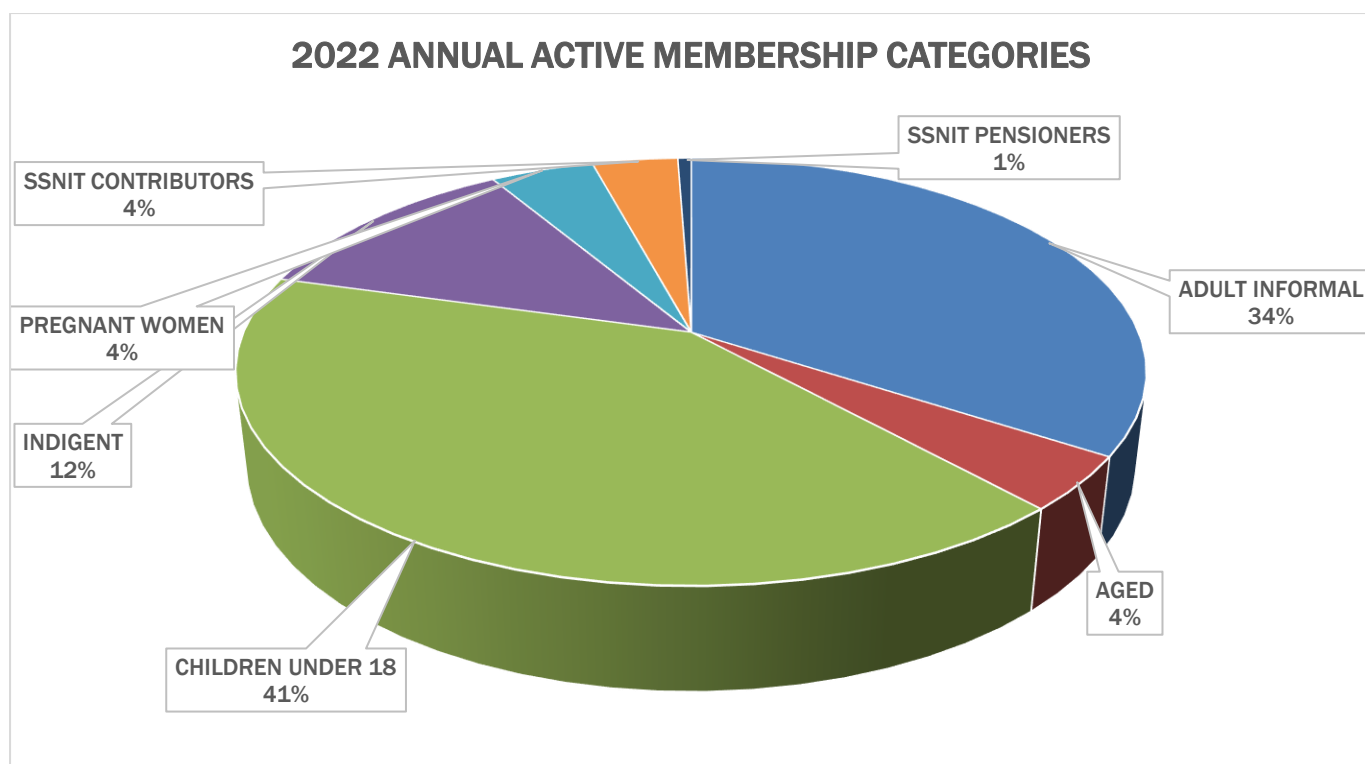


Figure 4 Distribution of annual active membership categories

3.4.4 Challenges/Lessons Learnt

- Mismatch of Bio data of some indigents
- Frequent downtime of Network/BMS application
- Inadequate /Broken down Regional and District office vehicles
- Insufficient funds for Regional and District Offices

3.4.5 Way Forward

- NHIA will continue to deepen collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) to register all persons assessed and qualified as poor and vulnerable.
- Leverage on the new mobile application (MYNHIS App) to increase membership
- Deepen collaboration with other stakeholders to register the poor and vulnerable;
- Dialogue with Partner Agencies to find common workable solutions to challenges;
- Leverage on GNHR to ensure that, no one qualified as indigent, loses out on NHIS membership.

3.4.6 Outlook for 2023

- Increase Annual Active Membership to (60%) 19,288,271 of National Population
- Facilitate the operationalization of GNHR to register 2.3 Million of the poor and vulnerable population in Ghana
- Implement other modules of the MyNHIS App. i.e Messaging module and Digital NHIS card
- Introduce/operationalize other functions of the Mobile Renewal platform
- To conduct monitoring and support visits to 16 Regional and 60 District Offices

3.5 LABOUR INTENSIVE PUBLIC WORKS (LIPW)

3.5.1 Background

The Government of Ghana identified the need to create employment opportunities for extremely poor households with productive capacities and this led to the introduction of the Ghana Social Opportunities Project (GSOP) in the year 2010 as a social protection intervention with Labour-Intensive Public Works (LIPW) as one of its components. Implementation of LIPW continued under GPSNP and its successor project, GPSNP 2, both projects to support the government to strengthen safety net systems in the country and improve the productivity of the poor. The LIPW programme is implemented under the Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development through beneficiary districts with the latter being responsible for actual/physical (day-to-day) delivery.

3.5.2 Objective

The LIPW aims at extending income-earning opportunities to poor and extremely poor households through the maintenance or rehabilitation of assets that improve the productivity of communities and respond to the anticipated effects of climate change and in the process ensure the institution and widespread adoption of the technology (LIPW) as a social protection and employment creation tool.

The programme since its inception in 2011, has cumulatively reached over 210,000 beneficiaries from poor and extremely poor households with income-earning opportunities by engaging them to work on various LIPW sites in exchange for a direct wage. In addition to providing incomes, especially during the agricultural-off seasons, the assets created have provided secondary employment effects, improved the lives of communities, and responded directly to the risks posed by climate change by providing more regular access to water and afforesting.

3.5.3 Achievements

The following were the achievements of LIPW under GPSNP and GPSNP 2 in the year 2022:

- Provided temporary employment for 23,083 poor and extremely poor persons across 80 beneficiary districts (in 2022). This figure, added to the previous years' achievements brings the cumulative number of beneficiaries reached under GPSNP and GPSNP 2 to 40,366 (34,579 for GPSNP and 5,787 under GPSNP2). Of this

number, 60.3% (24,327 beneficiaries) were females and the remaining 39.7% (16,039) were male. Additionally, 3,518 of the beneficiaries that have been reached to date under GPSNP and GPSNP2 are PWDs representation 8.7%.

These figures have been expressed in the charts below.

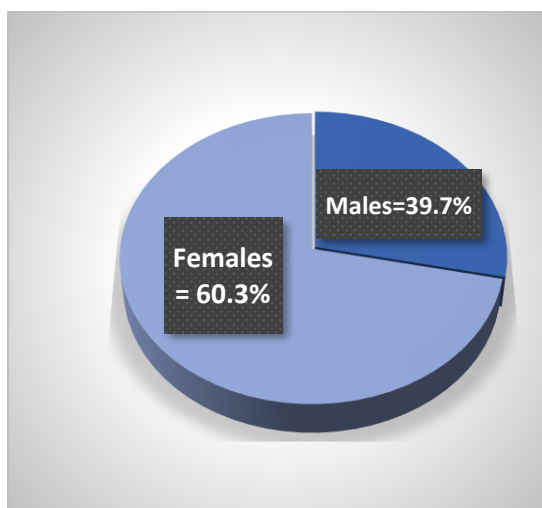


Figure 5 Sex disaggregation of LIPW beneficiaries

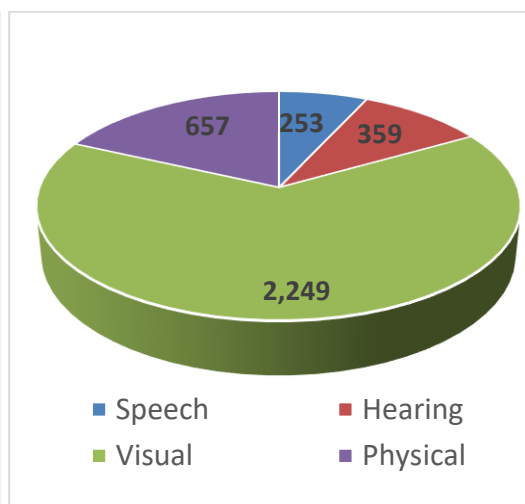


Figure 6 PWD Population in LIPW

- In line with its core objective, LIPW in the year under review transferred a total of GHS6.83 million as wages to beneficiaries, bringing the cumulative amount paid as wages to beneficiaries to GHS78.30 million over the past three years.
- In terms of asset delivery, two Hundred and Fifty-four (254) subprojects were completed comprising, 32 small earth dams, 19 (74.7km) feeder roads and 203 (1,962ha) plantations. A further Six hundred and thirty-one (631) potential subprojects were also identified and assessed (i.e. for their technical feasibility, financial viability and environmental and social risks) form implementation under GPSNP 2.
- To ensure the effective and efficient operation and maintenance of the investments put in place under LIPW, five-member Facility Management Committees have been constituted in the various subproject communities (each committee includes at least one female) and these committees were trained in the year under review to lead in the operationalization of the Facility Management Plans (FMP) developed in respect of the respective assets.
- Other capacity-building activities undertaken within the year included orientation of key stakeholders across 100 Municipal and District Assemblies and 16 Regional Coordinating Councils (RCCs), training of 52 district engineers in LIPW delivery, Management Information Systems training across 91 districts for both district assembly and community level actors all towards the commencement of LIPW activities under GPSNP 2.
- **LIPW Performance Evaluation.** To assess the performance of LIPW towards the achievement of project targets and outcomes, a performance evaluation study was commissioned in the year under review and the key findings relating to the

programme's effect on beneficiaries and communities as expressed in the change stories of beneficiaries have been summaries in the figure 7 below.

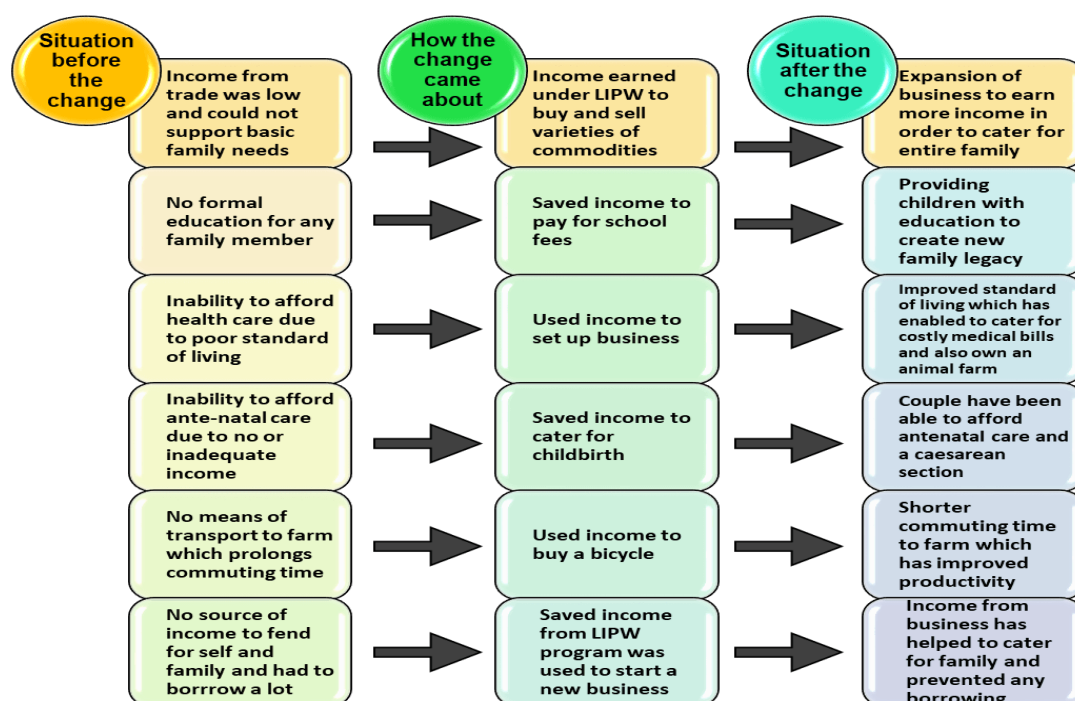


Figure 7: key findings relating to the programme's effect on beneficiaries and communities.

3.5.4 Challenges

A major challenge experienced in the year was the late procurement of a payment service provider, leading to about 3 months' delay in payment of wages to LIPW beneficiaries under GPSNP 2. Another area of concern was a delay in the procurement of Android tablets and challenges with programme MIS, which affected the early commencement of work on sites under GPSNP 2.

3.5.5 Outlook for 2023

The following are key activities to be undertaken in 2023:

- Provide temporary jobs (short term) to at least 40,000 persons from extremely poor and poor households through their participation in the execution of the following sub-projects:
 - 180 Feeder roads and small earth dams
 - 2,373ha communal plantations in 286 communities
 - Maintenance of 1,631ha communal plantations in 170 communities
 - Production of 6 million cashew, coconut and other assorted seedlings for distribution to project beneficiaries and other interested farmers through the Planting for Export and Rural Development (PERD) programme to establish their plantations.
- Transfer at least GHS 60 million as wages to LIPW beneficiaries

- Carry out several capacity building initiatives, including training of contractors and a cadre of supervisors and provision of logistics and equipment to DAs such as laptops, printers, scanners, and Android tablets, all geared towards effective implementation of LIPW.

Photo Gallery



RCC and District Assembly Stakeholders Orientation on GPSNP 2



Communities being Sensitized by DA Staff on LIPW Implementation



Feeder Roads Formation by Beneficiaries



Formation of Embankment of Small Earth Dams by Beneficiaries



Some Completed Small Earth Dams



Rehabilitated Sabiye-Wewa Feeder Road - Banda District



Production of Oil Palm Seedlings at Okrakwadwo in Okere District

3.6 PRODUCTIVE INCLUSION (PI)

3.6.1 Background

The Productive Inclusion (PI) programme was designed based on lessons and experiences from the Japanese Social Development Fund (JSDF) financed, Support Rural Income Generation of the Poorest intervention, implemented between 2015-2018 under the Ghana Social Opportunities Project (GSOP) which was designed to address the income sustainability gap left by two flagship Social Protection programmes i.e., LIPW and LEAP. Based on the successes achieved under the JSDF intervention, a decision was made to scale Productive Inclusion under GPSNP and GPSNP 2 to reach more beneficiaries/households. The CLASS intervention together with the Pilot carried out under GSOP has to date reached 27,157 beneficiaries (i.e. 7,072 under GSOP and 20,085 under GPSNP). The linkage to the Agriculture sub-component on the other hand, which formally commenced under GPSNP, has to date reached 19,119.

3.6.2 Objective

The main objective of the Productive Inclusion intervention, as a component under GPSNP and GPSNP2 is to support productive inclusion activities for extremely poor households in targeted communities by assisting beneficiaries to establish and engage in enterprise activities and also increase agriculture productivity that will guarantee these beneficiaries and their households (LEAP and LIPW households) sustainable incomes.

The intervention has two sub-components namely, the Complementary Livelihood and Assets Support Scheme (CLASS) and the Linkages to Agricultural Support sub-components. While CLASS consist of a bundle of support, comprising entrepreneurial skills training, provisions of start-up cash grants and mentoring and coaching services, that enable beneficiaries to establish and operate income-earning investments sustainably, the Linkages to Agricultural Support sub-component on the other hand, as the name suggest, is designed to assist beneficiaries to increase agriculture productivity by linking them to existing opportunities within the agriculture sector and this could be in the form of grants, subsidies and Agric related services. CLASS, under GPSNP, was implemented in 41 LIPW-LEAP overlap DAs in the north and was planned to reach 18,000 households (one beneficiary per household).

Based on the additional funding of \$15,000.000 provided under GPSNP 2, which commenced in 2022, the programme has been scaled-up to 82 DAs, with the addition of some prioritized southern LIPW-LEAP overlap DAs. The southern scale-up is expected to extend coverage to 35,000 beneficiaries (one beneficiary per household).

Figure 8 below provides a graphic description of the CLASS delivery process, indicating the various steps involved and the specific interventions provided at the various stages constituting the “bundle”.

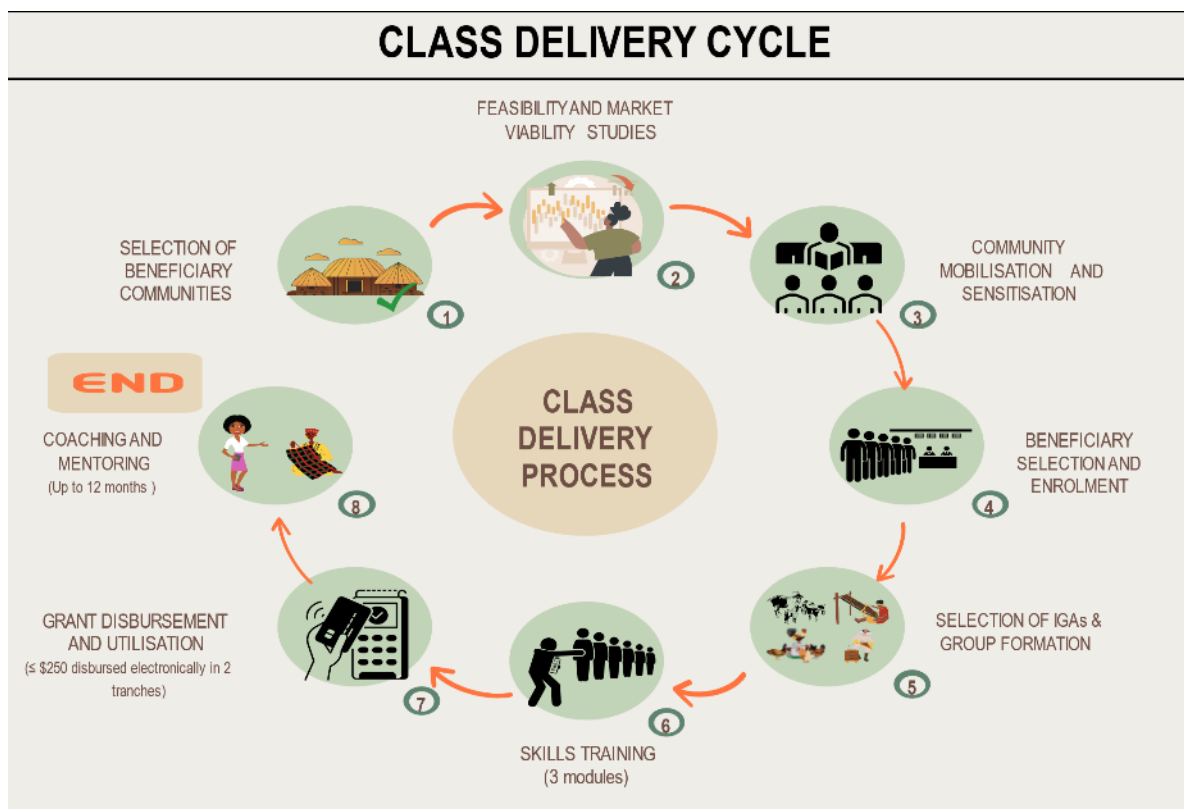


Figure 8: Description of the CLASS delivery process

3.6.3 Achievements

Within the year under review, the following were achieved under the programme:

- A total of 12,752 beneficiaries were provided with entrepreneurial support in the form of vocational and entrepreneurial skills training, start-up cash grants, and mentoring and coaching support, all geared towards the establishment of viable and sustainable income-earning enterprises/ventures for beneficiaries, 65% of whom are from LEAP households and the remaining 35% from LIPW households. This number comprises 1,678 out of the beneficiaries targeted in 2021, whose treatment could not be completed in the same year and were therefore rolled over as backlog into 2022 and 11,074 out of the 11,133 targeted and trained in 2022. This, added to the number of beneficiaries treated in the previous year brings the cumulative achievement in terms of beneficiary reach to 20,085. Of this number, 71% were female and 11% PWDs. Fig... below is a chart on CLASS female and PWD coverage

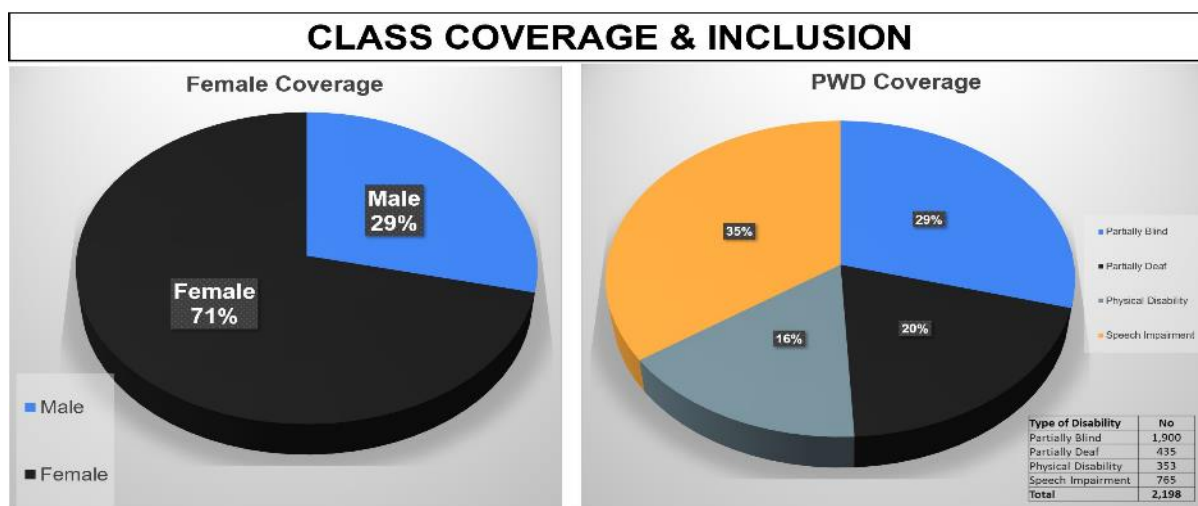


Figure 9: CLASS coverage and inclusion

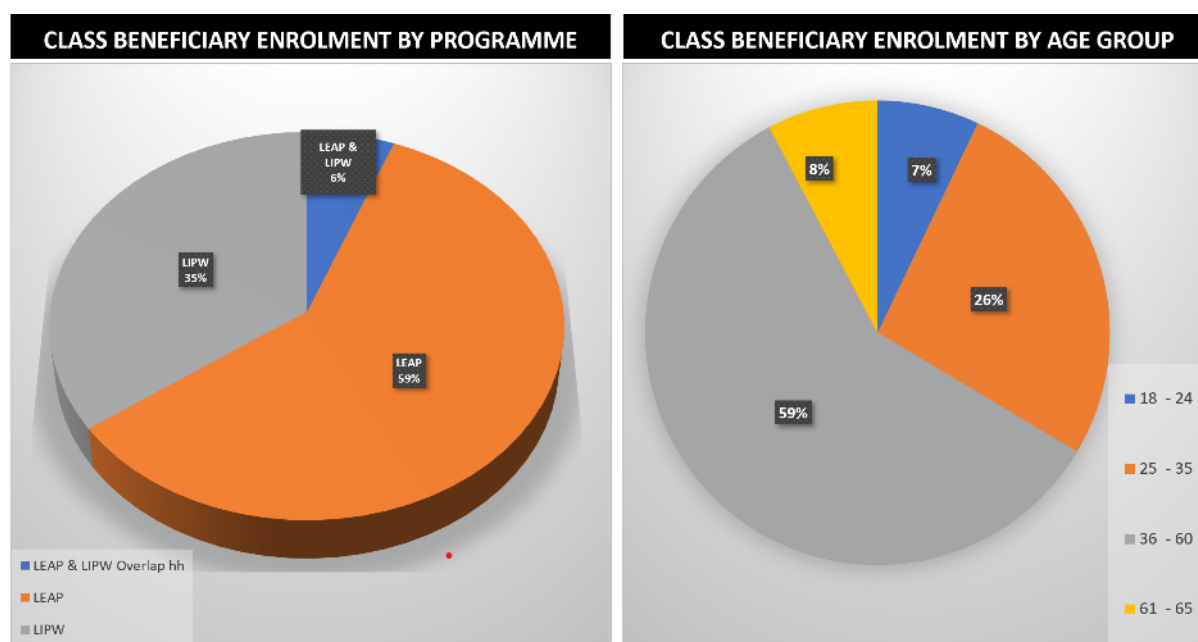


Figure 10: Beneficiary enrolment disaggregated data

- In terms of grant disbursement, a total of GHS16,982,135.00 was disbursed as start-up cash grants in 2022 to the 12,752 beneficiaries mentioned in the preceding paragraph. This, together with the amount disbursed in 2021 (GHS 8,181,636.77) brings the cumulative cash grant disbursed from project inception to date under GPSNP, to GHS25,163,771.77 (\$3,437,896.65) and these have been provided to 20,085 beneficiaries.
- Under the linkage to agriculture support, a total of 3,981 beneficiaries were linked to various agriculture interventions within 2022. This was achieved through (a) linking 788 beneficiaries to the government's flagship Planting for Exports and Rural Development (PERD) programme, where they were provided with fruit tree

seedlings with accompanying extension support that will ensure the survival of the seedlings and (b) also through the provision of nutrition education to another 3,193 beneficiaries which is aimed at improving nutritional outcomes for these beneficiaries and their households. The figure achieved within 2022 (3,981), added to the 15,138 figure reported at the close of 2021, brings the cumulative number of beneficiaries linked to agriculture support as of December 2022 to 19,119.

- A behavioural science intervention was successfully piloted under the PI component, and this was concerning improving beneficiaries' behaviour in the area of investment decision-making and savings. It is anticipated that the lessons from the pilot which was led by Messrs. Ideas42 (an international behavioural science design and research nonprofit organization) will be scaled up and infused into the delivery processes of the various SP interventions (especially LEAP, PI & LIPW) to improve programme outcomes.
- Again, to introduce CLASS into urban areas, a Needs Assessment was carried out, the outcome of which is informing the design of the urban component of CLASS (as envisioned under GPSNP 2), which is expected to commence in 2023

3.6.4 Challenges/Lessons Learnt

- Implementation of the PI programme, within the year under review, has not been without challenges and below are some of the challenges and lessons:
- The general increase in prices of goods and services witnessed in the country within the year harmed the operations of beneficiaries as it affected the value of the grants provided to beneficiaries thus making it difficult for them to acquire the necessary quantum of inputs required to operate and expand their businesses.
- MIS-related challenges (i.e., general slow response of the programme's software, incomplete design of some features such as the mentoring and coaching app. and the reporting menu etc.) which affected the pace of implementation - this however is being resolved by enhancing the IT and MIS capacity of the implementation team.
- Inadequacies on the part of some Business Development Service Providers (BDSPs) in effectively delivering on the psychosocial aspect of the mentoring coaching support, a situation that is being addressed by involving Social Welfare and Community Development field officers who are well-cloth with the requisite skills and expertise in this area to complement the efforts of BDSPs.

3.6.5 Way forward

The following are changes and reforms that will be pursued in the coming year, to improve programme outcomes:

- Expand CLASS coverage by scaling up from the current 43 DAs (as of the close of 2022) to cover 80 DAs in 2023 and later to 100 DAs in 2023
- Deepen digitization of the PI delivery process to improve efficiency and beneficiary satisfaction.
- Advocacy for the increase of the ceiling for CLASS Start-up cash grant from the current \$250.00 in response to the general increasing cost of inputs

- Scale up complementary services and support to beneficiaries in the area such as savings, nutrition, and psycho-social (through behavioural change intervention) as a means

3.6.6 Outlook for 2023

The following are the highlights of the activities to be carried out in 2023:

- Provide entrepreneurial support to over 29,000 LEAP and LIPW beneficiaries under both the rural and urban modules of CLASS under GPSNP2 through the provision of skills training, (i.e. Life Skills, Basic Business Management and Micro-enterprise Technical Skills) provision of start-up cash grants amounting to \$5million and accompanying mentoring and coaching support that would ensure the sustainability of beneficiary investments/businesses.
- Promote marketing for CLASS beneficiaries through rolling-out training programmes on market linkages for BDSPs & M/DCITs (BACs)
- Facilitate access to complementary agriculture support to LEAP and LIPW beneficiaries through linkage to ongoing agriculture sector interventions in areas such as improved nutrition through the Women in Agriculture Development (WIAD) directorate of MoFA and the Savanna Agriculture Investment Project (SAIP), provision of Cashew and other fruit tree seedlings (under PERD), support in animal rearing through collaboration with the Savannah Investment Project (SIP) and other allied interventions etc.
- Pilot Farmer linkages to Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP)

Photo Gallery



CLASS Beneficiaries and their respective & BDSPs displaying their wares during a Fair



A group of CLASS beneficiaries undergoing skills training in basket weaving



A CLASS beneficiary displaying her basket that is ready for the market



Well-packaged Dawadawa (a local spice) under the CLASS programme

3.7 THE GHANA NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD REGISTRY

3.7.1 Background

The Ghana National Household Registry (GNHR), has the mandate to create a single national household register, to serve as the main source of targeting for social protection interventions. It aims to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of Social Protection programme delivery in the country. The development and compilation of such a register involves the collection of information on the socio-economic characteristics of households in Ghana.

3.7.2 Objectives

The objectives of GNHR are as follows:

1. Establish a Single National Household Registry
2. Facilitate the linkage of the Registry to SP programmes
3. Promote the wide usage of the data for research, policy and planning

3.7.3 Achievements

Table 3: GNHR 2022 Performance

S/N	Planned Activities	Status of Activities for 2022
1	Assessment and movement of logistics from the Northern Region	Achieved
2	Procurement of Data Collection Firms	Achieved The Contract with Esoko Limited and JMK consulting firm was signed on 31 st September 2022
3	Set up MIS and logistics for data collection in all earmarked regions	Functional MIS infrastructure setup for data management
4	Conduct three stakeholder engagements, regional inception, reconnaissance visits and consensus-building	1. Consensus building for the Central region has been done. a) Regional house of chiefs- 12th April 2022 b) Political/Administrative Heads, CSOs, NGOs and Academia - 12th May 2022- 2. Inception meeting/Reconnaissance visit with regional and coordinating directors was done on 31 st August 2022- 31 st September 2022 3. Sensitization engagement for technical officers in each district in the

		Volta and Oti regions was completed on 31 st September 2022.
5	Recruit and train 72 field officers (DLO, DFO/CFP) at the district levels in Central, Oti and Volta Regions Recruit and train 60 quality assurance officers	30 DLOs, 12 DFOs, and 30 CFPs recruited and trained in the Volta and Oti Region in 2022 60 quality assurance officers were recruited and trained.
6	Collaboration with GSS on Structural Listing in the Central Region. Conduct Spot Checks	1. GSS commenced structure verification and validation in the Central region from 4 th October 2022 to 19 th October 2022 Spot checks completed and reported.
7	Conduct a Public Information Campaign on GNHR data collection in Central, Volta and Oti Regions.	Community sensitization was carried out by the Information Service Department (ISD) from 22 nd September - to 4 th October 2022 in Central, Volta and Oti regions.
8	Undertake data collection in 305,096 HH in the Central Region; 291,410 HH in the Volta Region and; 202,026 HH in the Oti Region.	1. 237,834 HH data collected in the central region. 2. 150,606 (52%) HH collected for Volta 3. 77,825 (39%) HH collected for Oti Region
10	Share and disseminate GNHR data.	a. Data was disseminated in the Upper East and Upper West regions. b. Data is disseminated to the various departments and units under the MoGCSP. c. A virtual dissemination workshop was organised for academia, CSOs, and MMDAs.
11	Signing of MoUs with stakeholders	MoUs signed with ISD, GSS, NHIA, LEAP and LIPW (GPSNP 1)

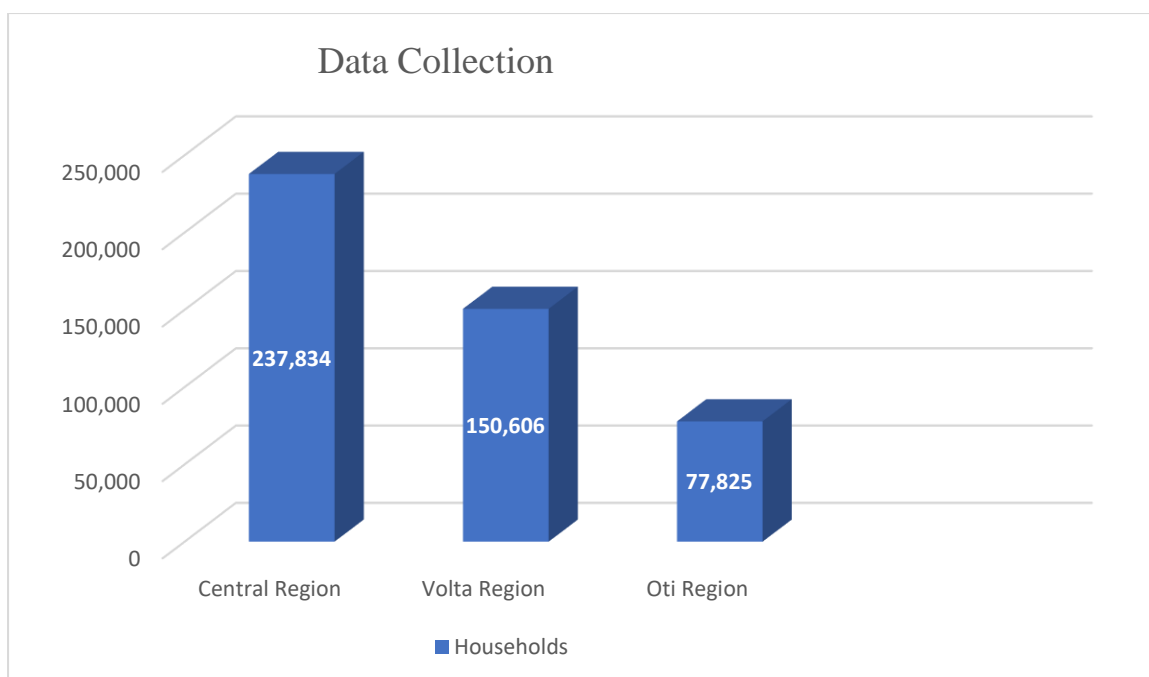


Figure 11: Status update of data collection

3.7.4 Challenges

Challenges faced by the GNHR include the following;

- Delays in key Procurement process
- Broken down and inadequate Vehicles to undertake field exercises
- Delays in the payment of Data collection firms and other service providers
- Late arrival of Power Banks and other ancillary devices resulted in some downtimes in the data collection exercise.

3.7.5 Way forward

- Collaborate with GSS to update entire country household data using 2021 PHC data
- Aggressively disseminate and make data public for use
- Fully digitalize MIS operations and data sharing
- Complete ongoing engagement with NIA, NHIS, MMDAs etc
- Advocate for legal framework for the unit in the SP Bill

3.7.6 Outlook for 2023

1. Complete Data Collection in all the sixteen (16) regions of Ghana.
2. Assertively disseminate all data collected and make data public for use.

3.8 PLANTING FOR FOOD AND JOBS (PFJ)

3.8.1 Background

In Ghana, the food crops subsector is dominated by smallholder farmers whose cropping practices are characterized by inadequate use of productivity – enhancing technologies, low use of quality seeds and fertilizers, and weak market linkages. These collectively hinder growth in farm productivity. To resolve the perennial challenges confronting the agricultural sector, the Government through the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) initiated a comprehensive strategy geared towards the modernization of Ghana's agriculture and to ensure food security for the country. The strategy is to encourage food production, achieve food sufficiency and surplus for export resulting in the first flagship intervention dubbed "Planting for Food and Jobs" (PFJ). This Campaign which was launched by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA), in 2017, has rolled out various activities nationwide.

3.8.2 Objectives

The primary objective of the Campaign is to ensure immediate and adequate availability of food in the country, enhance crop productivity, increase exports, create jobs and attract investment into agriculture.

The PFJ programme specifically seeks to:

- Increase the productivity of food crops in Ghana
- Ensure food security and availability of raw materials for industry
- Reduce food import and increase export
- Create jobs, especially, for the teeming unemployed youth in the country
- Create incentives and awareness to increase investment and attract the youth into agriculture
- To create general awareness for all formal workers and public institutions to farm and establish backyard gardens.
- To serve as food import substitution.

3.8.3 Achievements

Major milestones achieved under the campaign during the period under review have been summarized and categorized under the Campaign's strategic pillars on seed, fertilizer, extension service, marketing and e-Agriculture.

1. e-Agriculture

Beneficiary Farmer Registration

As of 31 December 2022, One million, two hundred and one thousand and twenty-three (1,201,023) farmers had benefited from the 2022 PFJ Campaign. Under the 2022 PFJ Campaign, MoFA with support from the Ghana CARES Obaatanpa Programme contracted an IT company called Broad spectrum Limited to design an electronic system for the 'redemption' (collection) of subsidized fertilizers in 5 Regions of the north. Currently, over 1.5 million farmers have been registered. Through this process, farmers in these regions successfully redeemed subsidized fertilizers using the electronic redemption system.

MoFA intends to expand the electronic redemption system to cover the remaining 11 regions in the southern sector of the country.

Table 4: Sex Disaggregation of Beneficiary Farmers by Regions

NO	REGION	GENDER		TOTAL
		MALE	FEMALE	
1	Ashanti	160,332	61,116	221,448
2	Upper West	84,628	17,063	101,691
3	Upper East	98,941	64,370	163,311
4	Northern	183,941	28,214	212,155
5	Bono East	53,356	14,921	68,277
6	North East	36,448	10,221	46,669
7	Savannah	12,150	2,521	14,671
8	Ahafo	37,247	15,329	52,576
9	Oti	5,937	2,341	8,278
10	Brong Ahafo	42,756	23,732	66,488
11	Western	35,418	15,360	50,778
12	Central	26,634	7,770	34,404
13	Volta	34,253	15,579	49,832
14	Greater Accra	16,638	5,688	22,326
15	Western North	11,542	3,761	15,303
16	Eastern	53,398	19,418	72,816
TOTAL				1,201,023

2022 REGIONAL BENEFICIARY FARMERS

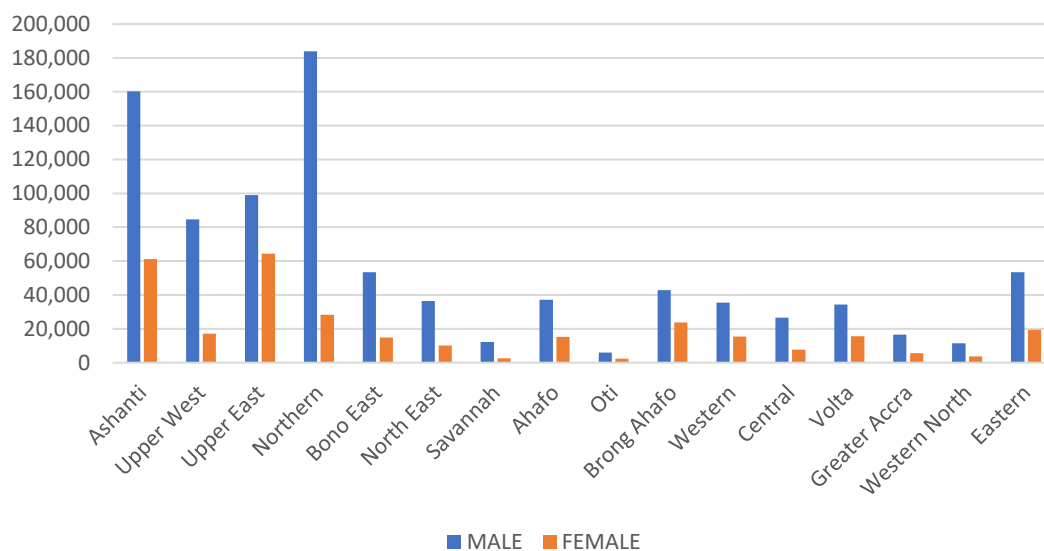


Figure 12 Regional beneficiary farmers' data

2022 PFJ BENEFICIARY FARMERS

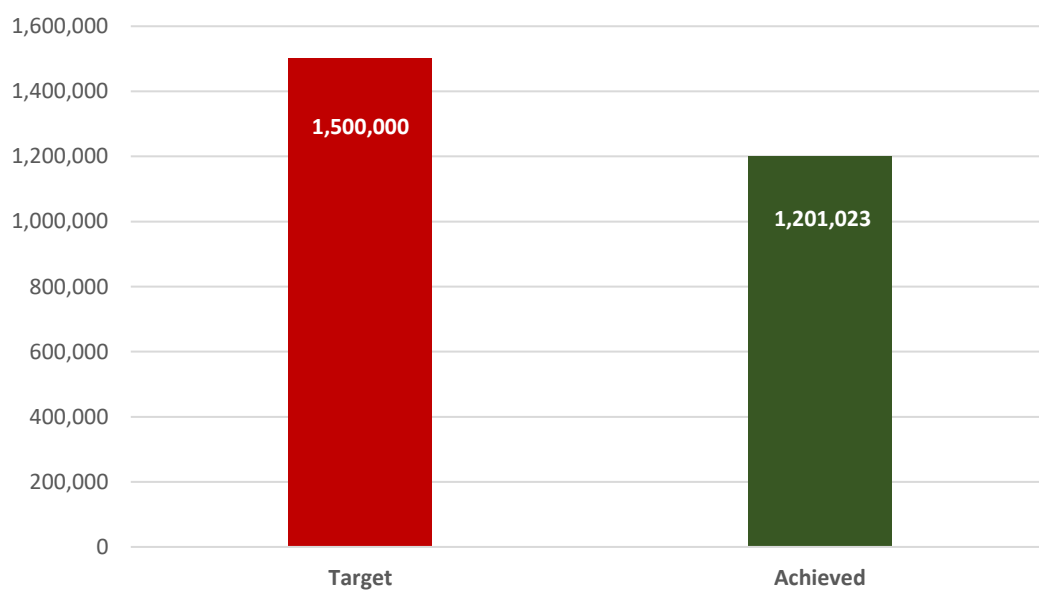


Figure 13: Beneficiary target set and Achieved

II. Distribution of Improved Seeds

The quantity of improved seeds/planting materials of cereals, legumes, vegetables and root crops supplied and distributed is shown in table 5 below.

Table 5: Distribution of improved seeds

SEED TYPE	TARGETS (MT)	QTY DISTRIBUTED (MT) AS AT DECEMBER, 2022
Maize (OPV)	7,020	4,361
Maize (Hybrid)	9,850	5,641
Rice	16,670	6,100
Groundnut	365	310
Cowpea	310	288
Soya bean	4,650	2,023
Sorghum	265	204
Assorted Vegetables	50	27
Total	39,180.00	18,954

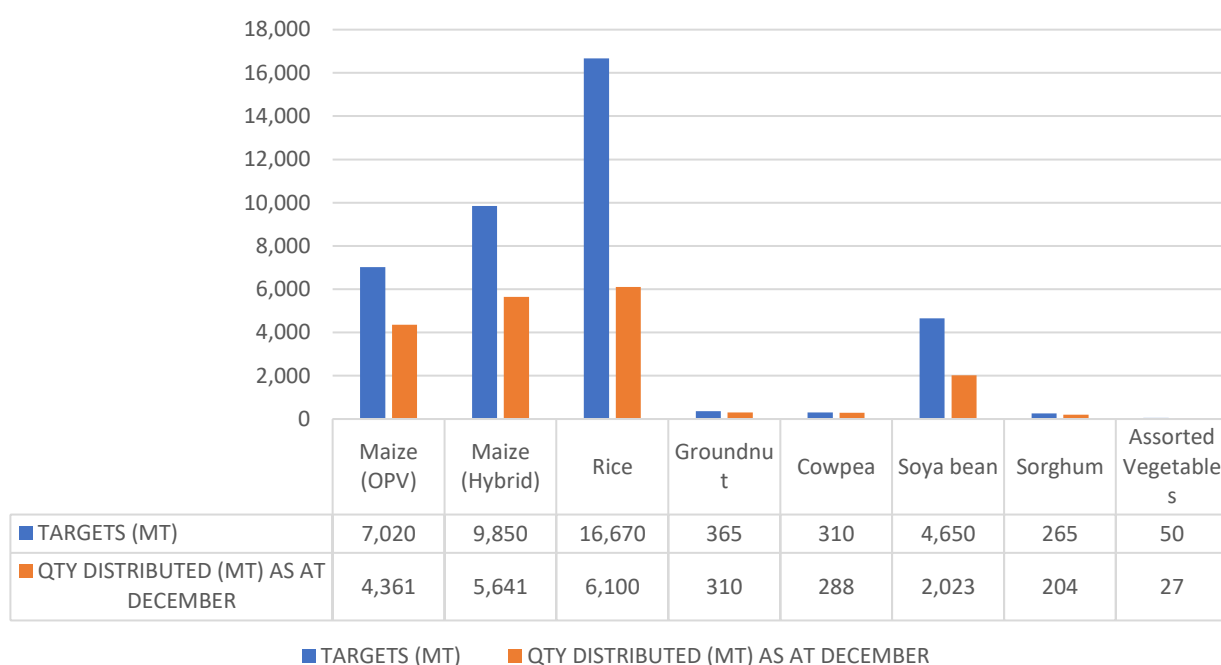


Figure 14: Distribution of Cereals, Legumes and Vegetables (MT)

Various seeds in storage ready for distribution



Inspection and Stock taking of Seeds at a designated Warehouse



Rice bagging for 2023 cropping season



III. Enhanced Access to Fertilizer

As of 31 December 2022, a total of 99,139 MT of inorganic (NPK and SOA) and 21,361 MT of organic fertilizers were distributed to all 16 regions of the country as shown in the table below. For the Organic Fertilizers, beneficiary farmers were also supported with 5,367.45 bags of Granular; 10,641 MT of Compost, 3,160MT of Liquid and 7,360MT of Organic Granular fertilizers.

Table 6: Quantities of fertilizers distributed in 2022.

FERTILIZER TYPE	QTY ALLOCATED (MT)	QTY DISTRIBUTED (MT)	% Distribution
NPK	208,700	68,080.00	33
SOA	74,200	31,058.58	42
Organic Compost	12,500	10,641	85
Organic Granular	7,500	7,360	98
Organic Liquid	4,200	3,160	80
Total	307,100.00	120,500	

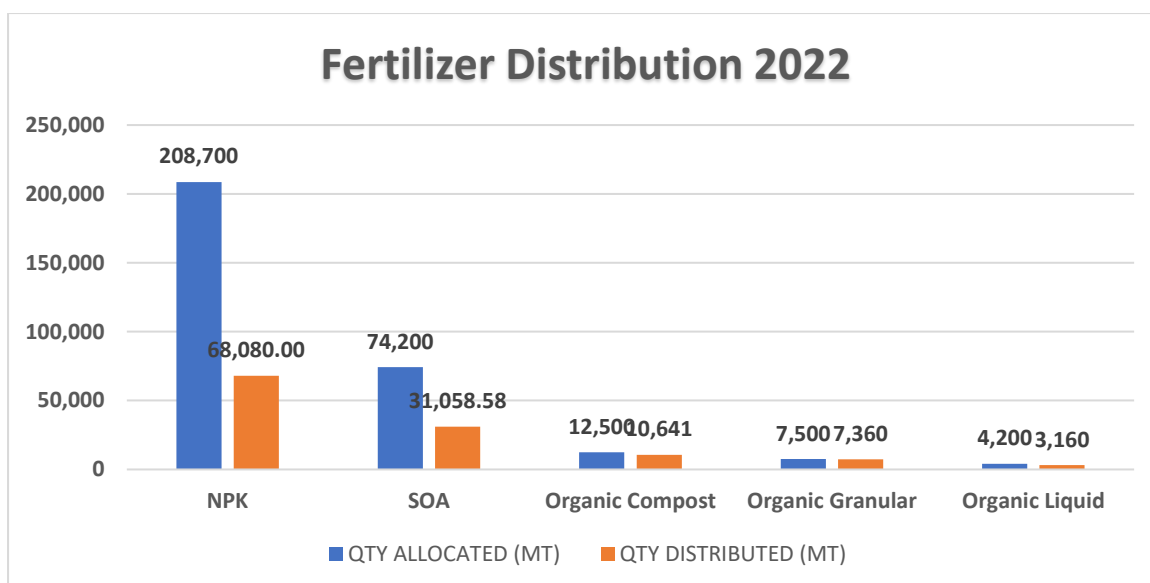


Figure 15: Inorganic and Organic Fertilizer Distribution



Fertilizers in storage

Fertilizers ready for distribution

3.8.4 Challenges

The following challenges were identified in the period under review:

1. High prices of fertilizer on the world market caused fertilizer companies to delay the import of fertilizers which resulted in the distribution of low quantities of fertilizers
2. There was a low capacity of local maize hybrid seed production.
3. Inadequate production of maize hybrid seeds to meet demand.
4. Low patronage of inorganic fertilizers due to high prices
5. Delays in the submission of sales returns to the Directorate of Crop Services (DCS) for processing and payment.
6. Some fertilizer companies are reluctant to sell fertilizer due to complaints about the Government's subsidy prices.
7. Inadequate maize hybrid seeds to meet farmer's demands.

8. Some participating companies do not comply with the guidelines for the inspection of stocks.
9. Low quantities of fertilizers distributed under the 2022 PFJ due to high prices
10. Poor quality of fertilizers reported by farmers in some regions

3.8.5 The Way Forward

The Directorate responsible for the implementation of the Planting for Food and Jobs Campaign proposes the following recommendations:

1. Provide incentives for local hybrid maize producers to encourage them to increase production capacities.
2. Encourage farmers in the southern sector to do more production during the minor season
3. Train local seed producers on hybrid maize seeds to build their capacity to increase production.
4. Build the capacity of local hybrid maize seed producers.
5. The government should provide incentives for local organic fertilizer to expand production.
6. Deploy an electronic 'redemption system' across the country to help address the challenge of delayed submission of sales returns.
7. Guidelines for organic fertilizers must be enforced to check the quality of the products.

3.8.6 Outlook for 2023

The following are major activities to be carried out in 2023 under the Planting for Food and Jobs Campaign:

1. Publish advertisements in the national dailies to call for proposals for expression of interest for the supply of seeds and fertilizers under the 2023 PFJ Campaign.
2. Constitute an evaluation team to evaluate proposals for expression of interest and select qualified companies for the award of contracts.
3. Meet with the International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC) to work on fertilizer cost build-up to enable the evaluation team to advise the Minister on the appropriate prices to be offered to the companies.
4. Issue offer letters to selected seed and fertilizer companies.
5. Review of the PFJ implementation guidelines.
6. Meet with seed and fertilizer companies to discuss the revised implementation guidelines and solicit their input.
7. Meet with Regional Directors of Agriculture and Regional PFJ Desk Officers to discuss the revised implementation guidelines and solicit their input.
8. Finalise and disseminate the implementation guidelines to all relevant stakeholders.
9. Meet with seed and fertilizer companies to discuss the progress of work, challenges and the way forward.

10. Meet with organic fertilizer companies to discuss MOFA's strategy of promoting the use of organic fertilizers among farmers due to the limited access to inorganic fertilizers.
11. Award additional contracts to selected local organic fertilizer companies.
12. Organize training Workshops to develop organic fertilizer training, and educational and promotional materials in collaboration with FAO.

3.9 WOMEN IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (WIAD)

3.9.1 Background

WIAD is one of the seven technical directorates of MOFA. Its role involves overseeing the delivery of improved technologies and information on production and post-production to women along the Agricultural Value Chain in an environmentally sustainable manner.

The Key Functions of the directorate are as follows:

- Formulate policies and programs to meet the needs of women along the Agricultural Value Chain
- Co-ordinate operations of Regional and District WIAD officers to ensure that appropriate extension technologies/messages reach women along the Agricultural Value Chain
- Provide technical support to Region and District WIAD Officers through training, and development of educational materials and training manuals.
- Collaborate with relevant Institutions (MDAs, Research, Academia, UN Agencies, Projects, etc.)
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of extension delivery in the regions and districts and determine the impact of programmes on the livelihood of beneficiaries.

3.9.2 Objective

The objective is to improve the livelihoods of Ghanaians especially women along the agricultural value chain.

3.9.3 Achievements

WIAD recorded the following achievements under four (4) major areas namely Nutrition, Value Addition, Food Safety and Gender:

1. **2,415 males and 12,643 females** were sensitized to food-based nutrition. In this regard, farm households were sensitized to a balanced diet; the right combinations to eat right (regarding the 6 food groups and oils, carbohydrates), how to cook right (avoiding overcooking which reduces nutrients in foods) and be healthy and full of energy for work on the farm.
The data shows that 531 males and 1,139 females adopted food-based nutrition through the sensitization programmes.
2. **A pilot project to reduce anaemia in Krachi West District- Oti region was carried out.** Five hundred (500) households benefitted from the Project on Food-Based Approaches to Address Iron Deficiency. Out of 11 iron-rich crops, each household was made to select 3 and plant in their backyards. The list of leafy vegetables and crops from which households chose are as follows; **Alefu, Ayoyo, Gboma, Cowpea leaves, Green beans, Agushie, Okra, Hot pepper, Bra (fresh kenaf leaves), Kontomire and Turkey**

Berries. Cooking demonstrations with these leafy vegetables were carried out and a recipe book on the various food recipes produced. This was a collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

3. Beneficiaries of backyard gardens popularly known as Home Gardens were **11 males and 107 females**. Households are encouraged to take this up to save on money for food as few foodstuffs such as pepper, tomatoes, and leafy vegetables can be obtained from their backyards. Receptacles such as broken buckets and containers can be used in the absence of land space in the backyard for farming.
4. The Directorate in collaboration with the World Food Programme, Research Institutions Academia etc. has developed the National Food-Based Dietary Guidelines to be launched.
5. To ensure safe food handling, sensitization on food safety and hygiene was done for School Feeding Caterers and Cooks, and other food processors. **2,526 males and 4,526 females** benefitted.
6. Food Safety Codes were developed and all MMDAs were sensitized to the Food Safety Guidelines.
7. **130 males and 465 females were sensitized** on value addition (utilization) of orange-fleshed sweet potatoes, fonio, soya beans etc.
8. Special Programme on Value Addition and nutrition education with US Peace Corps in 5 communities in the Oti region- Tinjase, Nabu, Kofi Akura, Majimaji all of Nkwanta North District and Jumbo no.1 at Nkwanta South District. The beneficiaries were 295 females and 5 males. They were trained in soya milk, soya khebab, soya flour etc. preparation.
9. Trained **349 male and 499 female** processors to access credit and other financial services
10. MAG-Canada (Global Affairs, Canada) called for applications and nineteen (19) FBOs were shortlisted and provided with equipment for processing. The equipment given included sealers, weighing scales, pans for roasting gari, press for palm oil processing etc. The equipment was given to aid processing and reduce drudgery.
11. The directorate developed recipes and recipe manuals on soybean, Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP) and Fonio. These are healthy recipes to be promoted.
12. Participated in the National Farmers Day/Civil Service Week). This was opened to the general public to learn about new developments in the area of food.
13. The Directorate won a proposal for funding to train Regional WIAD officers on the Gender Equality Manual for Extension Agents. Regional Officers after this training will step down to their District WIAD officers who will in turn reach out to the Agric. Extension agents and then to individual households. This will reach agricultural households with Gender Equality training and contribute to bridging the gender gaps in the agricultural sector.
14. A database of women FBOs has been documented by WIAD. This was updated throughout the year.
15. Off-farm livelihood activities were carried out for farm families to have a source of income during the off-farming season. **65 males and 251 females** benefitted from training in off-farm livelihood activities, eg. mushroom production, soap (liquid and bar) production etc.
16. 2,822 women were able to access tractor services on time

17. **120 persons (72males and 48 females)** in the Savanna region benefitted from the Rearing for Food and Jobs (RFJ) program

3.9.4 Challenges

The following challenges were identified in the year under review:

- Limited funding - inadequate logistics etc. for optimum service delivery
- Ineffective reporting structure with agricultural officers under the Local Government Service
- Poor data quality
- Land Tenure insecurity with heavy encroachment at office premises in Nungua Farms.

3.9.5 Way forward

The Directorate wishes to increase its visibility through deepened engagements and collaborations with other Ministries, Departments and Agencies. The directorate also looks forward to mounting a signpost of its location at vantage points close to its offices. Again, it looks forward to writing a number of proposals in order to support funding processes of activities of the Directorate. The directorate further looks forward to online engagements and in-house meetings to improve learning.

3.9.6 Outlook for 2023

- Implementation of Food-Based Dietary Guidelines (FBDG).
- Value Addition/Improved food handling
- Fuel wood economy
- Promote Home Gardens

PHOTO GALLERY



Value Addition activities at Nkwanta in the Oti region



3.10 MICROFINANCE AND SMALL LOANS CENTRE (MASLOC)

3.10.1 Background

The Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC) is a microfinance apex body dedicated to implementing the Government of Ghana's program aimed at reducing poverty and promoting job creation and wealth. MASLOC offers microcredit and small loans to help start-ups and small enterprises in the informal economy grow and expand.

The organization's commitment to supporting the poor in different sectors of the Ghanaian economy is matched by its provision of business advisory services, training, and capacity building for both SMEs and individuals. Over the years, MASLOC has established itself as a trusted microfinance institution, helping to drive sustainable development across Ghana.

3.10.2 Objectives

The objective of MASLOC is to create a more inclusive financial ecosystem that empowers individuals and businesses, particularly those in underserved and marginalized communities, to access the credit they need to thrive and succeed.

3.10.3 Achievement

1. In 2022, MASLOC undertook a series of operational activities aimed at supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and individuals on a hire-purchase basis to improve their businesses. The items disbursed are shown in Figure below.

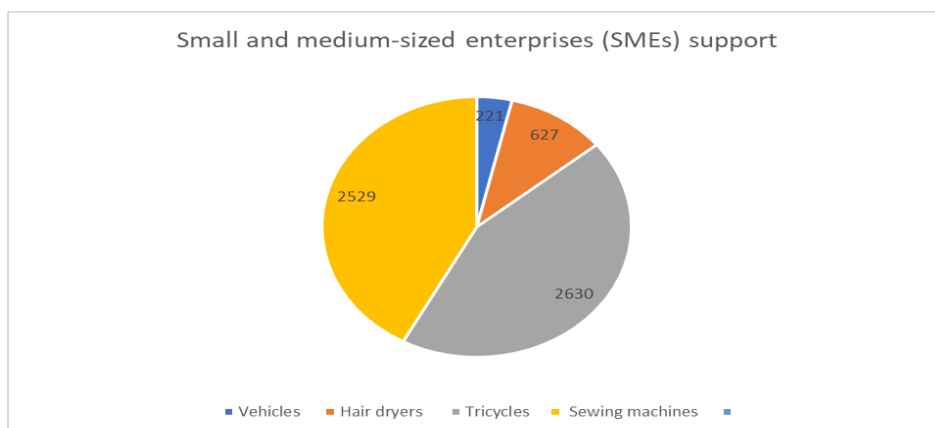


Figure 16: Small and medium-sized enterprise

2. Supported 1247 microcredit and 13 small loan beneficiaries and created employment opportunities while alleviating poverty. A total of Two Million, Five Hundred and Seventy-One Thousand, Five Hundred Ghana Cedis (GHS2,571,500) was disbursed nationwide.

3.10.4 Challenges

The following major challenges were identified:

- Limited Budgetary allocation and the delay in the release of funds affect service delivery and timely support to those in need.
- A major challenge is loan recovery, where defaulting clients fail to pay back the loans.

3.10.5 Way forward

diversifying funding sources and Improving Loan Recovery

3.10.6 Outlook for 2023

- Continue supporting more SMEs, women, and women groups.
- Expand coverage and client base by acquiring more Cars, Rickshaws (Aboboya), and Tricycles.
- Prioritize innovative product development e.g. online platforms for loan applications and payments to enhance services to customers.





3.12 GHANA EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL PROTECTION (GESP)

3.12.1 Background

The Ghana Employment and Social Protection (GESP) Programme sought to contribute to inclusive growth in Ghana by strengthening social protection and employment systems. The Programme was intended to support the Government of Ghana and other national stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the social protection system. GESP had four (4) key results areas, the first of which concerned social protection and was implemented by the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) and the Office of Head of Local Government Service (OHLGS) from 19th February 2018 to 18th August 2022.

These result areas aim at strengthening social protection programmes at the national and local levels targeted at fifty-two (52) partner Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) in three (3) out of the ten (10) regions (the Northern, Ashanti and Western Regions). The key result areas were further divided into five main sub-result areas. The table below shows the results area and the achievement:

3.12.2 Achievements in the Five Main Results Areas

RESULTS AREA	Achievement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Result 1: Support to the MoGCSP in establishing effective coordination mechanisms between the existing social protection programmes at the national level, aimed at achieving a coherent social protection floor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social protection coordination and complementary framework developed with support from UNICEF MoGCSP coordination and implementation plan of the National Social Protection Policy reviewed. Trained national level actors and administrators, on TRANSFORM and

RESULTS AREA	Achievement
	<p>tailor-made programmes for MoGCSP and other stakeholders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2022 International Women’s Day (IWD) celebration was supported. • Regional social protection seminars for heads of departments and the leadership of RCCs in beneficiary regions were conducted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • result 2: Support to the Office of the Head of Local Government Services (OHLGS) in collaboration with MoGCSP to implement and institutionalise effective coordination mechanisms at the decentralised level through technical assistance and capacity building and with a focus on establishing strong linkages between social protection and active labour market interventions at the district level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted baseline and scoping studies to establish linkages between social protection and active labour market interventions for districts in Ashanti and Western Regions • Conducted awareness-raising programmes in social protection and productive inclusion at the district level • Supported the formation of regional and district productive inclusion (PI) committees in selected partner districts • Supported the development of beneficiary selection criteria for socially inclusive beneficiary identification for productive inclusion programmes – attention to gender, disability and youth selection. • Supported 275 beneficiaries for demand-driven training in various technical-vocational occupations including bio-digester, solar, consumer electronics, vegetable production, poultry, piggery, heavy-duty mechanics, uniform production and alumina fabrication • Supported 278 beneficiaries with start-up equipment and toolkits including the construction of piggery and poultry-rearing facilities • Provided training in enterprise coaching for 20 district coaches from the Western and Ashanti Regions to monitor and follow up on training beneficiaries • Designed template for monitoring and follow-up on PI beneficiaries by district coaches

RESULTS AREA	Achievement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established collaboration between PI districts and twenty-four (24) region-based training providers Linked beneficiaries to production companies and medium-scale enterprises for employment Promoted a Community of Practice in PI for social protection practitioners from 19 districts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Result 3: Support for the modernisation of training and curricula at the institutions active in social protection and training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided logistic and equipment support to three (3) training institutions offering programmes in social development and social protection – School of Social Work (SSW); Institute of Local Government Studies (ILGS); and Centre for Social Policy Studies (CSPS) University of Ghana, Legon Supported ILGS in developing and piloting the Certificate in Social Development Course Supported School of Social Work (SSW) for the development of curriculum for social protection and training of nine (9) faculty members as TRANSFORM Master Trainers Supported CSPS to conduct three (3) webinars on the evolution of social policy up to and beyond COVID-19; social policy in times of crises; and gender-equitable and transformative social policy beyond COVID-19; and development of policy briefs Provided support for training in action research in vulnerability and social protection needs assessment at the district level for staff of the 3 training institutions, conducted by CSPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Result 4: Building of capacity for efficient and effective management processes at the MoGCSP and the local level; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened the coordination of SP monitoring and evaluation – needs assessment and the design and construction of an M and E Dashboard Developed and delivered training programmes in SP monitoring and evaluation for national actors from Ministries, Departments and Agencies

RESULTS AREA	Achievement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conducted SP Monitoring and Evaluation Training for regional and district-level functionaries in the Northern Region in collaboration with the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) ● Conducted TRANSFORM social protection training for district-level actors: administrators, assembly members and civil society in three districts in the Northern, Ashanti Regions ● Conducted training in social protection legal and policy frameworks and inter-institutional coordination for district-level functionaries from 16 districts in the Western and Ashanti Regions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Result 5: Strengthening of the legal and regulatory framework for social protection and establishment of mechanisms to promote social accountability, including an effective grievance system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Supported TRANSFORM training for civil society partners in collaboration with UNICEF ● Supported Rights Based Forum on Social Protection and Social Accountability in collaboration with UNICEF ● Supported review and validation of the draft National Social Protection Bill ● Supported the development of an Advocacy Plan for the passage of the National Social Protection Bill ● Supported data collection for, publication and launch of a complementary report on social protection delivery by CSOs in collaboration with UNICEF coordinated by SEND Ghana ● Supported policy coordination and implementation review by CSOs in collaboration with UNICEF ● Supported community dialogues in the Western Region to facilitate engagement between national-level entities and local communities

3.13 COMMON FUND FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

3.13.1 Concise Background

The Common Fund for Persons with Disabilities was introduced by the Government of Ghana in 2005 as a social protection intervention for persons with disabilities to reduce poverty amongst all categories of disability, particularly persons outside the formal sector of employment and to enhance their social image through dignified labour. A percentage of the District Assembly Common Fund is allocated for persons with disabilities annually and disbursed quarterly to MMDAs. Disability Fund Management Committees (DFMCs) have been instituted in all MMDAs with the sole responsibility of administering the funds using laid-down guidelines for the Management and Disbursement of the Common Fund for Persons with Disabilities. The Office of the Common Fund Administrator furnishes the National Council on Persons with Disability with a quarterly release of the common fund for persons with disabilities transferred to the MMDAs. The MMDAs are obliged to submit monthly reports to the National Council on Persons with Disability on how the common fund for persons with disabilities was disbursed.

The National Council on Persons with Disability in accordance with the Persons with Disability Act, 2006 (Act 715) has a Common Fund Unit to receive reports from the MMDAs on the management and disbursement of the common fund for persons with disabilities.

3.13.2 Objectives of the Programme Objectives

The objectives are:

1. To support the income-generating activities of individual persons with disabilities as a means of economic empowerment
2. To provide educational support for children, students and trainees with disabilities.
3. To build the capacity of Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPWDs) in the districts to enable them to advocate and assert their rights and undertake awareness raising and sensitization on disability issues.
4. To support persons with disabilities have access to technical aids and other assistive devices and equipment

3.13.3 Achievements for 2022

1. In 2022, persons with disabilities with business ideas were supported to establish businesses. These include cold stores, mobile money centres, animal rearing, food joints, sale of clothing, among others.
2. Also, the fund took care of some educational needs of persons with disabilities in both formal and vocational training.
3. It also provided assistive devices and medical support for some individuals with disabilities who applied for such support. In all, **32,406** persons with disabilities benefited from the fund across the 261 districts in Ghana within the said 3 quarters released.

3.13.4 Challenges/Lessons Learnt

The following challenges were identified:

- Late and non-submission of the required number of reports by MMDAs.
- Items purchased for persons with disabilities are unspecified
- Lack of a separate account for the Common Fund for Persons with Disabilities.

3.13.5 Way Forward

1. There should be rigorous and constant monitoring of beneficiaries of the fund to assess how the fund is utilized and its impacts on their lives.
2. Sensitization of Disability Fund Management Committees on the Guidelines for the Management and Disbursement of the Common Fund for Persons with Disabilities

3.13.6 Outlook for 2023

1. there will be monitoring of the fund to ensure that the fund is effectively utilized
2. Sensitize MMDA officials on issues arising from the administration of the fund
3. Revise guidelines adopted for onward sensitization of officials.

3.14 GHANA TVET SERVICE

3.14.1 Background

The Ghana Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Service was established by the Pre-Tertiary Education ACT 2020, (ACT 1049), with its mandate as a corporate body to manage, oversee, and implement approved national policies and programmes relating to Pre-Tertiary Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

With the establishment of the Ghana TVET Service under the Pre-Tertiary Education Act 2020 (ACT 1049), all TVET Providing Institutions under nine (9) Ministries have been realigned (GES-TVET, DICCES, NVTI, OIC, Social Welfare Training Centres, Youth Leadership Training Institutes, GRATIS, Technology Solution Centres, Farm Institutes, Roads and Highways Training Centre, Government Technical Training Centre, Community Development Vocational Institutes) to the Ghana TVET Service under the Ministry of Education.

Ghana TVET Service has 252 Training Institutions nationwide that run a 3-year programme at the Pre-Tertiary level, out of which 218 run the FREE TVET programme. The Institutions are headed by Principals and assisted by Vice Principals. They are made up of Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff. Informal Training is delivered by Mastercraft Persons (MCPs) at the workshops/enterprises.

The Service is the implementing Agency for the Government's Flagship programme "FREE TVET for ALL".

3.14.2 Achievements

Programme/ Sub-programme	Planned Output(s)	Planned Output indicators	Output Achieved
Formal TVET	Vocational skills training for youth- Admission	Number of the youth admitted	47,319 enrolled
	Vocational skills training for youth-In training	Number of Youth still in training	110,662 (Males=80,573, Females=30,089)
	Vocational skills training for youth-female enrolment	Percentage of female enrolment in TVET Institutions	27.19% (30,089) CSSPS Yr 1 - 27% (47,319)-Females = 12,774 Yr 2 - 25.10% (32,248) -Females = 8,095 Yr 3 - 24.56% (27,482)-Female = 6,750 Yr 4 – 68.36% (3,613)-Female = 2,470

Figure 17: Achievements of GTVET

Programme/ Sub-programme	Planned Output(s)	Planned Output indicators	Output Achieved
Informal Apprenticeship	Registration of Master craft persons	Number Registered	3,088 MCPs registered
	Registration of Apprentices	Number Registered	4,719 Apprentices registered
	Monitoring of Master Craft Persons Workshop	Number of Workshops monitored	914 MCPs workshops Monitored
	Mobilise 2,000 MCPs and Apprentices for proficiency test	Number of MCPs and Apprentices mobilized for proficiency test	1,831 MCPs and Apprentices for proficiency test mobilized

Programme/ Sub-programme	Planned Output(s)	Planned Output indicators	Output Achieved
Informal Apprenticeship	Issue certificates to Trade Associations (TAs)/Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs) /MCPs and Apprentices i. 5 Affiliation ii. 1,500 Accreditation for MCPs iii. 1,200 Apprenticeship Completion certificates iv. 1,200 Apprenticeship Contract Forms	Number of Certificates issued	Certificates issued to TAs/ Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs)/MCPs/Apprentices . 11 Affiliation Certificates - TAs and NGOs 1,621 Accreditation Certificates – Master Craft Persons 4,843 Apprenticeship Completion Certificates to Apprentices 5,707 – Apprenticeship Contract Forms to MCPs/Apprentices

Programme/ Sub-programme	Planned Output(s)	Planned Output indicators	Output Achieved
Training and Skills Development	Organise training for driving instructors	Number of candidates trained	68
	Organise defensive driving course for drivers	Number of candidates trained	24
	Issue certificate of completion to trainees of affiliated institutions	Number of certificates issued	56
	Monitor training activities of affiliated Institutions	Number of Institutions monitored	16

Programme/ Sub-programme	Planned Output(s)	Planned Output indicators	Output Achieved
Standard Setting and Trade Testing and Certification	Trade tests and examinations conducted	Number of candidates tested	<p>Certificate 1: 89.9% 1,350 pass out of 1,502 – Public and Private candidates (former NVTI)</p> <p>Certificate 2: 76.35% 423 pass out of 493 (85.8%) – Public and Private candidates (former NVTI)</p> <p>7,742 pass out of 26,543 (66.9%) – Public and Private candidates (former TEU)</p>

3.14.3 Challenges

1. Inadequate funds for the Service for 2022
2. Inadequate training workshops, hostel facilities, classroom blocks and dining halls in some TVET Institutions.
3. Inadequate funding for Start-Up Kits for graduates of Vocational Institutions
4. Inadequate Logistics

3.14.4 Outlook for 2023

- ▶ Monitor Public and Private TVET Institutions for effective quality TVET delivery/training.
- ▶ Develop and submit proposals to development partners to support TVET delivery.
- ▶ Develop a Management Information System for effective data management.
- ▶ Develop Capacity for staff/Master Craft Persons to improve staff efficiency.
- ▶ Organize training for driving instructors on defensive driving to improve road safety; Issue certificates and monitor training activities of affiliated institutions.
- ▶ Promote gender parity in all trade areas.
- ▶ Supervise facilitators to improve learning outcomes.
- ▶ Promote the Employment of Persons with Special Needs to the service workforce.
- ▶ Develop learning materials for Persons with Special Needs.

4. CONCLUSION

The report shows that a lot has been achieved in the social protection sector during the period under review.

The impacts of the various social protection programmes implemented in the country underscored the need to deepen the implementation and coordination of social protection interventions to ensure that the programmes are effectively targeted at the poorest and the most vulnerable in the country.

To achieve this, measures must be put in place to help implementation institutions overcome the challenges that impede the efficient implementation of social programmes in 2022.

5. APPENDIX

APPENDIX 1: SUMMARY OF CALLS (JANUARY-DECEMBER 2022)

A total of **3,896** calls were received at the Helpline of Hope Call Centre within the period under review. Out of the **3, 896** calls received, **1,290** were cases reported, **32** were feedback calls, **1,620** were follow-up calls, and **954** were silent and prank calls. A total of cases **1,076** were resolved during the period. Below is the breakdown of cases received during the year under review.

Table 7: Category of Calls, Frequency and Percentage

S/N	CATEGORIES OF CALLS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE (%)
1	Grievances	1290	33.11%
2	Follow Up Calls	1620	41.58%
3	Prank & Silent	954	24.49%
4	Feedback Calls	32	0.82%
5	Total	3,896	100%

Table 8: Details of cases

CASES	RECEIVED	RESOLVED
Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty	36	30
Labour Intensive Public Works	225	214
Productive Inclusion	202	194
Ghana National Household Registry	129	129
Ghana School Feeding Programme	1	1
Education Capitation Grant	1	1
National Health Insurance Scheme	1	1
Emergency Cash Transfer	283	283
Gulf Of Guinea Northern Region Social Cohesion Project- (Soco)	2	2
Others (Non-SP Cases)		
Child Abuse	14	9
Child Custody	10	4
Child Defilement	3	2
Child Labour	4	1
Child Maintenance	53	11
Delay In Payment	1	0
Disability Common Fund	74	24
Disability Issues	7	5
Domestic Violence	10	3
Education Assistance	6	5
Fraud And Corruption	1	0
Enquiry	85	83
General	61	17
Legal Issue	5	4
Marital Issue	1	1
Medical Assistance	3	3
Mental Issue	1	1
Neglect/Custody	3	1
Payment Related	1	1
Rape Cases	1	0
Trafficking	1	0
Unemployment	3	3
Paternity	3	0
Family Welfare	7	0
Work Related	6	5
Financial Assistance	45	38
Total	1290	1076

Table 9: Sex disaggregation of cases resolved.

CASES	MALE	FEMALE
LEAP	23	7
LIPW	208	6
Productive Inclusion	166	28
GNHR	78	51
GSFP	1	0
ECG	1	0
NHIS	1	0
Emergency Cash Transfer	177	106
Gulf of Guinea Northern Region Social Cohesion Project- (SOCO)	1	1
Others	131	90
TOTAL	787	289