



REPUBLIC OF GHANA

**MINISTRY
OF
GENDER, CHILDREN
AND SOCIAL
PROTECTION**

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For Immediate Release

CIRCULAR

REBASING OF LEAP BENEFIT LEVELS FOR ENHANCED EQUITY AND ADEQUACY

Background

The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) is committed to ensuring the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) Programme continues to provide meaningful support to extremely poor and vulnerable households across Ghana. The LEAP Programme is reassessing the eligibility or otherwise of its current beneficiaries and will gradually expand to 400,000 households identified as extremely poor by the Ghana National Household Registry (GNHR) by September 2025. Following a comprehensive review in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance, we are pleased to announce key adjustments to the LEAP benefit structure **effective September 2025**, aimed at improving fairness, equity, adequacy, and alignment with households' basic needs.

The rebasing is in line with Articles 34 (2) and 37(1) of the 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana which mandate the state to ensure social protection for all citizens, particularly the vulnerable and marginalized while safeguarding the welfare of the elderly, children, and persons with disabilities. These are aligned with the LEAP programme's focus on these groups. The rebasing of the LEAP benefit levels is further in line with the National Social Protection Policy 2015 which provides the framework for social protection interventions in Ghana, including cash transfer programmes like the LEAP aimed at reducing poverty and vulnerability.

The revised benefit structure is guided by the following key objectives:

- i. Rebase benefit levels to reflect the needs of extremely poor households based on family size.
- ii. Introduce a supplementary benefit (top-up) for households with vulnerable members, such as persons with disabilities, orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs), and the elderly.
- iii. Enhance benefit adequacy across all household sizes in line with international best practices (e.g., benefits as a share of the poverty line or consumption levels).
- iv. Ensure the implementation of the 2023 Indexation Mechanism of Benefits under Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) Cash Transfer Programme using the rebased benefit levels as the basis for future indexation.

Rationale for LEAP Benefit rebasing

The current benefit structure, which categorizes the benefit level of the households based solely on the number of vulnerable members (e.g., elderly, persons with disabilities, orphans), does not account for variations in household size. This has led to inequities, where larger households with fewer number of vulnerable persons receive the same benefits as smaller benefit despite greater needs. To this end, the existing structure is not suitable in achieving the objectives of the LEAP Programme. To effect rebasing of the benefit levels the reassessment enables the MoGCSP to transition to targeting based on extreme poverty, household size and vulnerability.

To address this, the new structure introduces household size-based groupings to ensure benefits reflect family size and targeted top-ups for households with vulnerable members, based on family size.

Revised Benefit Structure

By 1st September 2025, the LEAP Benefit Levels will be as follows:

Household Size	Base Benefit (GHS/month)	Vulnerability Top-Up (GHS/month)	Benefit for Households with Vulnerable Members (GHS/month)
1–2 members	160	5	165
3–4 members	190	10	200
5+ members	250	15	265

The rebasing combines household size categories with vulnerability top-ups. Household extreme poverty status, size, and vulnerability of individual members will be determined using GNHR data. The revised structure ensures benefit adequacy, on the average, 16.6% of households below the extreme poverty line constituting 25% of the consumption of extreme poor households (these estimates are derived from analyses of the revised benefit structure, GNHR data and the Ghana Living Standards Survey 7 data). The option further provides for equity as larger households and those with vulnerable members receive proportionally higher support.

Under the revised structure, for example, an extremely poor household with 3–4 members will receive GHS 190 per month. If the household includes one or more vulnerable members, the benefit increases to GHS 200 per month. The vulnerability top-up is applied as a flat amount, regardless of the number of vulnerable individuals in the household.

Expected Outcomes

The LEAP Benefit rebasing is expected to achieve the following:

- Reduced Inequity: smaller households no longer disproportionately benefit over larger ones.
- Ensure households with vulnerable member receive additional support to cater for their special needs
- Improved transparency by providing clear criteria for benefit calculations.
- Improve consumption across all household sizes in line with the best international practices (e.g., benefits as a share of the poverty line or consumption levels)

Assurance to Beneficiaries

The Ministry assures beneficiaries of:

- Continual payments during the transition.
- Continuous monitoring to ensure fairness.
- Enhanced communication to ensure that no one is left behind
- Engagement with communities to address concerns.

A copy of this release will be available at www.mogcsp.gov.gh and on all social medial handles of the Ministry. For further inquiries, kindly contact the MoGCSP/LEAP Management Secretariat on 0800 800800 or 0900 800 800.

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