



HIGHLIGHTS

CHANGE

AN AGENDA FOR JOBS

Creating Prosperity &
Equal Opportunity for All

NEW PATRIOTIC PARTY (NPP)
MANIFESTO FOR ELECTION

2016



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GHANA



HIGHLIGHTS

To be read in conjunction with the main manifesto

CHANGE

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Equal Opportunity for All

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“

(The party's) policy is to liberate the energies of the people for the growth of a property owning democracy in this land, with right to life, freedom and justice, as the principles to which the Government and laws of the land should be dedicated in order specifically to enrich life, property and liberty of each and every citizen.

”

Dr. J. B. Danquah



MY VISION FOR GHANA

Our nation is in crisis: a crisis created and sustained by the mismanagement, incompetence and corruption of the Mahama-led National Democratic Congress (NDC) government. Economic conditions are worsening by the day and there is so much suffering in the land. But Ghana does not have to be like this. Ghana deserves the best!

I have dedicated my life to public service to change Ghana for good. As President, with the help of the Almighty God, I will be committed to a different kind of government, one that governs in the national interest, not for private gain.

As I travel the country over the years, I see the pain and sacrifices made by ordinary Ghanaians everyday:

- by the farmer who struggles to feed his family and send his children to school, but does not know, whether having made that sacrifice to pay the bills, his children will even be able to get a job at the end of their studies
- by the mother of the sick child, who has to walk miles on the dusty road to the clinic to get medicine only to be turned away because the clinic will not accept her NHIS card and she has no money to pay
- by the young man and woman who, through no fault of their own, have had to drop out of school and cannot find a way out of life's difficulties
- by the young man who, because of financial circumstances at home, never had the opportunity to go to school and is now sleeping rough on the streets of Accra
- by youth who have worked hard at school, or the University, but still cannot find a job when they leave. They become street hawkers and even open roadside shops, but find they struggle to survive because the falling cedi raises the costs of their goods. Their shops also close because they cannot afford electricity bills
- by the husband with a family of four who lost his job two years ago, because his employers had to close down the business due to DUMSOR and the high cost of operations
- by that young woman whose wages can barely cover her transport fares to and from work and her share of the one bedroom she shares with her friend, and
- by the kayayei who have no opportunities or no shelter and are forced to sleep on the streets of our cities.

It is for these people that I am running for President - for ordinary Ghanaians who have been betrayed by a government that does not care. It is to them that my Government will be dedicated.

My vision for Ghana is of an optimistic, self-confident and prosperous nation with a strong and thriving democratic society in which mutual trust and economic opportunities exist for all, irrespective of their background.

The next New Patriotic Party (NPP) government will place people at its centre. Their hopes and their concerns will drive its policies and priorities.

I promise to build a Ghana that works and gives each and every one of us the opportunity to improve our lives. A Ghana that works for us and our families, not just for the rich and powerful.

I will be a President for all Ghanaians, whatever your region, your tribe, your gender, your status, or your religion. I will serve you all.

I will champion your cause with the help of the Almighty God, and every day I wake up as President, my first and only consideration will be what is best for the country we all love and what will improve the lives of all our people.

I have an unshakeable faith that our country, the Black Star of Africa, under the leadership of the NPP, has a bright future, a future that will be secured by the enterprise, creativity, and hard work of the Ghanaian people.

Join me, so together, we can build a country where, if you show up, step up, and work hard, you will have your fair share of its wealth, and be fairly rewarded for your hard work. A country in which hard work pays, and cutting corners does not. A country in which, no matter where you come from, you will be rewarded based on merit, not on whom-you-know-basis. A country in which every young person can hope, and aspire, and reach his or her fullest potential, right here in Ghana.



Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo

Chairman's Remarks

Ghana, our dear country, is at the crossroads. We find ourselves in a messy economic and social crisis.

About eight years ago, no one would have imagined that Ghana could slip down this much from being one of the fastest growing economies in the world to a highly indebted and a highly distressed country.

Ghana, under the NPP government led by President J. A. Kufuor, moved from a highly indebted poor country to a middle income country as at 2008.

The question is, what could have gone so wrong to bring us to our current state or situation?

We are honestly convinced and strongly insist that this is due to the mismanagement, incompetence and corruption of the Mahama-led NDC government.

On December 7, 2016, the people of Ghana will have an opportunity to end the many years of hardship under the Mahama-led NDC Government and elect Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo as the next president of Ghana.

There is HOPE for Ghana. Under the presidency of Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, Ghana will rise again, and be on the right path towards economic prosperity, good and accountable governance in a stable and a democratic environment.

This manifesto for CHANGE is a blueprint for lifting the country from the abyss, and reverse the misfortunes of the NDC government under John Mahama.

It is my humble duty as Acting National Chairman, to call on all Ghanaians to vote for Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo Addo for President in the 2016 elections.

May God bless Ghana, and us all.

Thank you.



Freddie Blay

National Chairman (Ag.)





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A STRONG ECONOMY MATTERS



A strong economy creates opportunities, and inspires more people to start new businesses. In much the same way, a strong economy encourages existing businesses to make new investments, to grow, and expand. More and well-paying jobs are created, the private sector hires more people, and citizens prosper. Public sector-driven job creation interventions and initiatives also require a strong economy.

Unfortunately, the economy is broken: there is widespread hardship and suffering, resulting in insecurity at all levels.

This is because John Mahama has been a bad steward of the economy and our finances. Seven out of every ten Ghanaians say John Mahama has failed on the economy, and is leading the country in the wrong direction.

With GH¢20 billion in taxes and loans between 2001-2008 (NPP) and GH¢248 billion in taxes, oil revenues, and loans between 2009-2016 (NDC), this is our comparative records in office:

i. Real GDP

- NPP (2000 – 2008 without oil): 3.7% up to 9.1%
- NDC (2009 – 2015, with oil): 4.8% down to 3.9% and projected to end

this year at 3.3%, the lowest since 1994.

- Even in the face of a global economic and financial crisis in 2007/8 (with oil prices reaching a record high of \$147/barrel), economic growth in 2008 rose to 9.1% under NPP.
- Note that NDC's 2009 was a steep drop from our 9.1% at the end of 2008, to 4.8%.
- ii. Size of Economy (GDP Size):
 - NPP (2000 – 2008): \$5.1 billion to \$28.5 billion, a 459% increase in eight years.
 - NDC (Projected end of 2016 from the 2008): \$40 billion, just 40% increase in eight years.
 - Between 2012 and 2016 i.e. during Mahama's tenure as president, the economy, in dollar terms, DECLINED by 5%
- iii. Per Capita GDP:
 - NPP (2000 – 2008 without oil): Growth of 187% in 8 years from \$440 to \$1,266 (addition of \$826)

- NDC (2008 end amount to 2016 with oil): Growth of 17%, from \$1,266 in 2008 to a projected \$1,481 (addition of only \$215)
- Between 2012-2016 i.e. Mahama's tenure as president it DECLINED by 12%.
- iv. **Minimum Wage:**
 - NPP increased the minimum wage from the equivalent of \$0.62 in 2000 to \$2.12 in 2008 (i.e. by 244%) in dollar terms
 - NDC: Declined from \$2.12 to \$2.02 by 2016 (i.e. went down by 4.6%). Between 2012 and 2016, during the tenure of President Mahama) the minimum wage in dollar terms DECLINED by 23.6%!
- v. **Income Inequality:**
 - NPP (2001-2008): Improved by 1.8%
 - NDC (2009-2016): The worst decline (-5%) occurring during Mahama's tenure as President
- vi. **Human Development Index:**
 - 2000 to 2010: Ghana made the most progress. The average growth rate was 1.33
 - 2010-2014: Declined 1.13
- vii. **Food Import Bill:**
 - 2008: US\$600 Million
 - 2015: \$2.1 Billion!
- Rice imports for example has risen by 52% from 395,400 metric tonnes in 2008 to over 600,000 metric tonnes in 2015
- viii. **There has been a Freeze on hiring of Extension Officers under the Mahama-led NDC government**
- ix. **Cocoa:**
 - Mass cocoa spraying exercise introduced by the NPP government has collapsed and cocoa production has declined.
 - Under NPP, Cocoa production more than doubled in just two years, from 341,000 metric tonnes in the 2001/2002 season to 737,000 metric tonnes by 2003/2004; and then to one million metric tonnes in 2010/2011.
 - It has since declined to less than 750,000 metric tonnes in the 2014/2015 season
- x. **DUMSOR:**
 - The economy has endured 5 Years of DUMSOR, with deeply debilitating consequences for the economy
 - The government is financially strapped and unable to meet its obligations to suppliers of Gas from Nigeria
 - Electricity tariffs are now amongst the highest in the world thanks to high taxes and corrupt procurement of power generation systems.

xi. Fiscal Deficit/GDP:

- NPP (2001-2008): Average Fiscal Deficit/GDP was 4.4%.
- NDC (2009-2015): Average was 8.1%, with three successive years of double digit deficits between 2012-2014 (the first time in our history)

xii. Total Debt:

- NPP: After 51 years of independence, and at the time NPP left office in 2008, it was GHC9.5 billion.
- NDC: In just seven years, it has risen to GHC100 billion in 2015 (moving the debt to GDP ratio from 32% in 2008 to over 72% in 2015)

xiii. Interest on Debt:

- Under NPP: At the end of 2008, total annual interest payments amounted to GHC680 million.
- Under NDC: In 2016, it is GHC10.5 billion. Six times our oil revenue is now needed to pay one year's interest on the debt.

xiv. Banking System

- Rising state-owned enterprise (SOE) debts, debts owed by government to bulk-oil distribution companies (BDCs) etc. has escalated the level of non-performing loans (NPLs) to as high as 19.3% in May 2016.
- lending rates have increased from about 27% in 2008 to 34% in 2016.

- today banks prefer to government and not to the private sector
- the exchange rate which stood at GHC1.20 to US\$1 at the end of 2008 has dramatically depreciated to GHC4.0 to US\$1 today. Under NDC the cedi has been one of the worst performing currencies in the world

xv. teacher and nursing training allowances have been cancelled

xvi. nurses and health assistants are not being posted after completion of their courses

xvii. drivers and transport operators have seen a dramatic rise in the costs of insurance, spare parts, license fees, DVLA charges and fuel

xviii. Taxes

- Taxes on businesses have increased dramatically and new taxes have been introduced
- For example, increases in capital gains tax (from 10% to 25%), withholding tax (from 15% to 20%) and the introduction of the Energy Levy (10%), VAT on Electricity (17.5%), VAT on Financial Services (17.5%), Special Import Levy, etc.
- Taxes have also been introduced on ambulances and bicycles

xix. Infrastructure Spending

- government expenditure on infrastructure has declined considerably from an average of

11.5% GDP between 2001 and 2008 to 5.7% of GDP between 2009 and 2015.

- The 2016 is even lower at 4.2% of GDP in 2016.
- according to the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), most of the country's borrowing under the Mahama-led NDC government has been spent on consumption, rather than investment. In fact, only 20% of total government borrowing between 2009 and 2015 has been spent on infrastructure investment
- xx. the country's sovereign credit rating has been downgraded from B+ (with a positive outlook), without oil, under NPP in 2008 to B (with a negative outlook) in 2016, with oil, under NDC. This has resulted in government having to borrow at much higher cost
- xxi. the NHIS has virtually collapsed. The dreaded cash and carry system has returned, and
- xxii. economic mismanagement has resulted in the country turning to the IMF for a bailout and to restore policy credibility. However, the IMF programme has not delivered

I. IMPACT OF NDC'S MISMANAGEMENT, INCOMPETENCE AND

CORRUPTION ON THE WELFARE OF GHANAIS

For the vast majority of Ghanaians, the toxic mixture of the Mahama government's mismanagement, incompetence and corruption over the last eight years has resulted in an explosion of suffering in the country:

- teachers are suffering
- teacher trainees are suffering
- nurses are suffering
- nursing trainees are suffering
- patients are suffering
- students are suffering
- traders are suffering
- pensioners are suffering
- drivers are suffering
- contractors are suffering
- civil servants are suffering
- farmers are suffering
- fishermen are suffering
- industries are suffering
- artisans are suffering
- kayayei are suffering
- men are suffering
- women are suffering
- children are crying

- **Ghanaians are suffering**

The discovery of oil has not made any difference in the lives of most Ghanaians, except for a small group of friends and family around the President. The country is clearly not working. The Mahama-led NDC government is not working and has no clue about how to get our country to work.

III. NPP'S VISION FOR GHANA

Our overall vision for Ghana is the development of an optimistic, self-confident and prosperous nation, through the creative exploitation of our human and natural resources, operating within a democratic, open and fair society in which mutual trust and economic opportunities exist for all.

IV. NPP'S ECONOMIC POLICY OBJECTIVES

On the economy, our goal is simple: to build the most business-friendly and people-friendly economy in Africa, which will create jobs and prosperity for all Ghanaians.

We will ensure that growth is socially responsible, diversified, spread geographically, comes from genuine value addition, environmentally sensitive and fair to all participants in the economy, including labour.

Our goal, inter alia, is to achieve double digit GDP growth annually for the next four years (under the Kufuor-led NPP government the economy attained a GDP growth rate of 9.1% in 2008 without oil). We will reduce the cost of doing business, maintain fiscal

discipline, reduce government borrowing and reduce interest rates to spur private sector investment.

Our economic programme will enhance agricultural production and productivity, along with a transformation of the economy through value-addition to our raw materials in a process of rapid industrialization.

We understand that solid and consistent implementation of structural reforms and policies is ultimately the key to successful job creation and therefore NPP will implement prudent and sustainable economic policies.

Our government will secure the peace and stability of our nation.

V. NPP'S ECONOMIC POLICY DIRECTION

To achieve our objectives, our principal economic policy direction will be to:

- a. restore macroeconomic stability
2. shift the focus of economic management from taxation to production
3. manage the economy competently, and
4. make the machinery of government work to deliver the benefits of progress to Ghanaians.

a. Restoring Macroeconomic Stability

The NPP will restore and maintain macroeconomic stability through the pursuit

of sound policies on the basis of an enhanced institutional framework. Macroeconomic stability is built around three pillars: monetary discipline, fiscal discipline and financial stability. To reinforce monetary discipline, the Bank of Ghana Act, 2002 (Act 612) established the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to guide the implementation of monetary policy. The other two pillars (fiscal discipline and financial stability) have no such institutional anchors.

An NPP government will enact a Fiscal Responsibility Law (FRL) to bring comprehensiveness, accountability, transparency and stability to the entire budgetary process. Under this law, a Fiscal Council would be established to contribute to the accountability of Government, responsible for setting up medium-term fiscal policy anchors to guide fiscal policy as well as monitor compliance.

We also will establish a Financial Stability Council (akin to the proposed Fiscal Council) that is well grounded in law. Its mandate, among others, will include assessing the vulnerabilities affecting the stability of the financial system.

In addition, to restore overall macroeconomic stability, the NPP will:

- i. undertake financial sector reform to deepen financial markets, promote financial inclusion, including deepening our electronic payments system
- iii. formalize the economy through the establishment of a national database, using the National Identification System as the primary identifier,

with linkages to the databases of institutions such as the Police, National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS), Passport Office, Immigration, Courts, Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA), and the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA), and

b. Shifting the Focus of Economic Management from Taxation to Production

The mismanagement of the economy under the Mahama-led NDC government has resulted in an increase in taxes on virtually everything taxable. This has increased the burden on the private sector and has become a disincentive for production.

To address these challenges, the NPP will shift the focus of economic policy away from taxation to production by:

- i. reducing the corporate tax rate from 25% to 20%
- ii. removing import duties on raw materials and machinery for production within the context of the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET) Protocol
- iii. abolishing the Special Import Levy
- iv. abolishing the 17.5% VAT on imported medicines not produced in the country
- v. abolishing the 17.5% VAT on Financial Services
- vi. abolishing the 5% VAT on Real Estate sales

- vii. abolishing the 17.5% VAT on domestic airline tickets
 - viii. reducing VAT for micro and small enterprises from the current 17.5% to the 3% Flat Rate VAT introduced by the Kufuor-led NPP government
 - ix. introducing tax credits and other incentives for businesses that hire young graduates from tertiary institutions, and
 - x. reviewing withholding taxes imposed on various sectors (including the mining sector) that have constrained the liquidity of many businesses
- with the private sector and prioritization of government expenditure
 - iv. savings from the reduction of interest rates paid on the country's debt stock
 - v. increase in oil and gas revenues from TEN and SANKOFA fields
 - vi. elimination of corruption, especially in procurement of goods and services, which is estimated at about 1.5% of GDP annually, and
 - vii. plugging leakages in the administration of public finances.

The ensuing increase in production and economic growth, arising from a streamlining as well as the elimination and reduction of some of these taxes, will more than compensate for any temporary revenue shortfall. Growth is expected to increase to double digits starting 2017. Indeed, during the NPP tenure between 2001 and 2008, corporate taxes were slashed from 32% to 25% and tax revenue actually increased! The data shows that, notwithstanding (or because of) the high level of taxes, there is a revenue shortfall of GH¢700 million for the first half of 2016.

Additional sources of revenue, and therefore fiscal space to finance these tax reductions will include:

- i. broadening of the tax base as a result of formalization of the economy
- ii. increase in tax compliance
- iii. reduced government expenditure as a result of increased collaboration

The Auditor General's Report has indicated that between 2012 and 2014, GH¢5.9 billion of government funds cannot be accounted for.

Collectively, these measures will more than exceed any revenue shortfall from the reduction in taxes.

c. Competent Management of the Economy

The NPP has a solid record of economic management, including growing the economy, holding down debt judicious use of public finances while displaying a high sense of fiscal responsibility.

The first transformation Ghanaians will therefore witness under the next NPP government, after the 2016 elections, is the transformation from the mismanagement, incompetence and corruption under the Mahama-led NDC government to prudent

management, competence, and integrity under an NPP government.

d. A Government Machinery that Works

Under the Mahama-led NDC government, the quality of service delivery across all levels have broken down.

Ordinary Ghanaians encounter deep frustrations and needless obstacles attempting to access public services from government agencies and institutions, including acquiring driving licences, acquiring passports, registering businesses, processing pension payments, processing payrolls for new teachers, nurses, doctors, and police officers, and land document registrations.

The NPP believes that the purpose of Government is to help improve our lives, that of our families, and our communities, and an inefficient government machinery defeats this purpose, no matter the investments government allegedly makes in infrastructure.

In this direction, in addition to managing the economy competently, the NPP will immediately deploy resources, both in equipment and personnel, in fixing the basics of the government machinery in order to deliver standardised services at affordable, transparent prices, faster turnaround times, and with professional handling of exceptions and grievances.

In sum, we will make Ghana work again.



TRADE AND INDUSTRY



Unemployment today has reached unprecedented levels under John Mahama. Millions of Ghanaians wake up each day to the soul-destroying reality of joblessness and they spend their energies looking for non-existent jobs.

Since job creation, for us in the NPP, is essentially a private sector activity, the number one priority for the next NPP government will be to put in place the policy framework that will help businesses expand and create jobs, as well as promote the growth of entrepreneurship opportunities for young Ghanaians in particular.

The country's industrial sector faces significant challenges, the principal ones of which are lack of access to finance, high interest rates, inadequate and poor quality raw materials for industrial processing, poorly developed domestic trade, weak consumer protection, lack of effective collaboration between research institutions and industry, poor trade facilitation, an unstable exchange rate, lack of coherent industrial development planning and initiatives, poor research and development support scheme for industry, lack of land for industrial zones, high import duties on raw materials, poor standards of certification, and an unreliable and expensive power source.

What the NPP will do:

Our strategy is to address these challenges in ways that enable industry to thrive and become a major source of jobs, especially for the youth, including:

- a. pursuing aggressive industrialization and value-addition to agricultural produce
- b. providing tax and related incentives for manufacturing businesses in sectors such as agro-processing, light industries, pharmaceuticals, petrochemicals, garments and textiles, among others
- c. providing a reliable and cost effective mix of energy supply for businesses
- d. providing the necessary incentives for private sector participation in health service delivery
- e. pursuing policies that will reduce interest rates
- f. implementing policies that will reduce the cost of doing business
- g. stabilizing the currency

- h. providing incentives to the hospitality and creative industries that will enable them create jobs
 - i. investing in skills training and apprenticeships, and
 - j. promoting exports, especially of value-added agricultural produce and light manufactures.
- f. **“One District One Factory Initiative”:** In collaboration with the private sector, the NPP will implement the “One District, One Factory” Initiative. This District Industrialization Programme will ensure an even, spatial spread of industries.

Key initiatives we will initiate and implement include::

- a. establishing an Industrial Development Fund (IDF) to finance critical private sector industrial initiatives. The Fund will be seeded and fed by funding from Government, multilateral and private institutional investors
 - b. re-orient energy tariff policy to reduce the burden on businesses
 - c. launch a comprehensive National Plan for Entrepreneurship and Innovation that will invest in supporting young businesses and start-ups, and
 - d. develop, in collaboration with trade unions, a database for trained apprentices and artisans, and establish a National Apprentice Recruitment Agency
 - e. creating an information portal and set up a task force to assist our youth and artisans in making their products and services visible on a local, national, and global scale.
- g. **Strategic Anchor Initiatives:** Government will partner private local and foreign investors to develop large scale strategic anchor industries to serve as growth poles for the economy, especially in petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, iron and steel, cement, aluminium, salt, vehicle assembly, manufacture of heavy machinery, equipment and machine parts, agro-processing, garments and textiles, assembly of electronics and light machinery.
 - h. **Industrial Sub-contracting Exchange:** Through a concerted, collaborative and collective effort, the NPP will enforce local content provisions by developing efficient and competitive local supplier networks for the goods and services that industry needs and that can realistically be sourced locally. To facilitate this, the NPP will develop a National Industrial Sub-contracting Exchange to link SMEs with large scale enterprises.
 - i. NPP believes in empowering the local private sector and will pass legislation to require that at least 70% of all Government of Ghana, taxpayer-financed contracts and

procurements be executed by local corporate entities.

- j. In addition, the NPP will introduce a policy requiring that 30% of the required 70% be sourced from entities owned by women, persons with disability, and those established under the Youth Enterprise Fund (YEF).





ENERGY AND PETROLEUM



Under the Kufuor-led NPP government (2001-2008), significant contributions were made to the country's energy resources and infrastructure as a result of our bold and farsighted policies. These included:

- i. the discovery of oil and gas in commercial quantities
- ii. the construction of the West African Gas Pipeline
- iii. in response to the emerging energy crisis of 2006/2007, through facilitations, procurements, and construction, an addition of 1440MW to Ghana's generating capacity as follows:

- Bui Dam (400MW)
- Tema Thermal 1 Power Plant - TT1PP (126MW)
- Tema Thermal 2 Power Plant – TT2PP (49MW)
- Mines Reserve Plants (80MW)
- Kpone Thermal Power Plant (220MW)
- Additions to Akosombo Hydro Power (108MW)

- Takoradi 1 Power Plant – T1, Aboadze (132MW)
- Sunon Asogli Plant (200MW), and
- Osonor (now CENIT) Plant (126MW)

I. POWER SECTOR

The NDC government inherited an economy with no DUMSOR in 2009. However, the energy sector has since been badly managed. The poor management of the sector has been characterized by shortfalls in power generation, corrupt and opaque procurement of new power plants, frequent power cuts, inefficiencies and unsustainable inter-utility debts, which threaten the satisfactory long-term operation of the power sector.

The effect of the last five years of DUMSOR on our economy has been devastating. The Institute of Statistical Scientific and Economic Research (ISSER), in its 2014 study, indicates, that on average, the country is losing production worth about US\$ 2.1 million per day (or, US\$ 55.8 million per month) as a result of DUMSOR alone and that, the country lost about US\$680 million in

2014 translating into about 2% of GDP due to the power crisis.

It is now clear that Mahama has run out of things on which to blame DUMSOR. From acts of God, to blaming Nigeria, to wishing it away, it is obvious that, five years into this state of affairs and Mahama announcing that he had fixed DUMSOR, he does not know how to provide Ghanaians with a long-term, stable and reliable electricity supply.

The hard, cold truth is that despite the recent election-inspired, artificial semblance of stability in the power supply situation, the fundamental challenges leading to DUMSOR remain, and the quick fixes have instead resulted in the imposition of high cost emergency plants on Ghanaians, corruptly procured from AMERI and KARPOWER. We still owe millions of United States Dollars to Nigeria for gas supplies.

In fact, Mahama's greatest legacy to Ghana as President is DUMSOR.

There is increased uncertainty about the future stability of power supply under the NDC government. Many businesses and residential consumers of electricity are justifiably afraid that DUMSOR would come back, if the NDC is retained in power, as it has not demonstrated capacity in addressing these challenges.

What the NPP will do:

- a. end "DUMSOR" in the short-term, through government liquidity injection, restructuring of debts, and securing of firm commitments for the reliable supply of fuel
- b. reduce taxes on electricity tariffs to provide immediate relief to households and industry
- c. conduct a technical audit on all power sector infrastructure and develop and implement a 10-year Power Sector Master Plan which will be reviewed thereafter, to meet our medium to long-term energy needs
- d. develop and implement an Energy Sector Financial Restructuring and Recovery Plan, incorporating, a liquidity management mechanism for VRA, Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG), Northern Electricity Department (NED) and the BDCs
- e. ensure that there is sufficient Reserve Margin – the safety cushion we need to prevent blackouts – to ensure the stability of the system
- f. build solar parks in the northern part of the country to deploy utility scale solar photovoltaic systems. To achieve this, we will provide investment tax credits to owners of commercial, industrial, and utility scale solar photovoltaic (PV) and wind power systems to take a one-time tax credit of qualified installed costs, and
- g. ensure local supply of solar panels to meet the requirement of our policy proposals, by establishing a Renewable Energy Industrial Zone where the private sector will be supported to build factories for the production and assembling of the full components of solar power systems.



II. PETROLEUM SECTOR

In 2007, when commercial quantities of oil and gas were discovered in the Jubilee Fields as a result of the Kufuor-led NPP government's bold and farsighted policies, many Ghanaians hoped for improved conditions of living through the transformative effect of oil.

Ghana produced first oil in 2009. Seven years on, many Ghanaians have lost hope in the promise of oil. What they see under the Mahama-led NDC government is an unrestrained move towards what is popularly called the "oil curse".

What The NPP will do:

The NPP commits to a transparent, accountable and efficient management of the country's petroleum resources for the benefit of all Ghanaians.

In pursuant of this, the NPP will:

- a. improve transparency in the management of our oil and gas resources. Our commitment to passing the Right to Information Bill will further enhance transparency in the oil and gas sector
- b. in collaboration with the private sector, accelerate oil exploration in the Voltaian Basin (Northern, Volta, Ashanti, Eastern, and Brong Ahafo), as well as in the Keta and Accra Basins to enhance Ghana's potential for increasing oil and gas production and to build these areas into industrial growth poles

- c. develop, in collaboration with the private sector, Western Region into a regional oil services hub with a first class port facility, as well as positioning it as an efficient centre for back-office support for the oil industry in the West African region, including the relocation of the headquarters of GNPC to the region
- d. aggressively invest in education and skills enhancement of Ghanaians to manage the oil and gas sector under an "Accelerated Oil Capacity Development Programme"
- e. support the growth of local competition by redeeming government obligations to the BDCs
- f. address macroeconomic instability to ensure the effective implementation of the petroleum price deregulation policy

III. PETROLEUM REVENUE MANAGEMENT

- i. review and further amend the Petroleum Revenue Management Act 2011 (Act 815) to support investment of revenue from oil in high-impact strategic social and economic infrastructure
- ii. between 2017 and 2020, primarily allocate revenue from oil to infrastructure, health, education and agriculture
- iii. leverage oil revenue to complete the Accra-Kumasi-Paga rail line

connections and the rehabilitation of the Western and Eastern Rail Lines, and

- iv. manage and use the revenue from the Jubilee, as well as from the TEN and SANKOFA fields, in a responsible and transparent manner.



AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT



Agriculture continues to be the anchor of the country's economy, employing more than half of our workforce. Growth in this sector has declined dramatically under the NDC's mismanagement, incompetence and corruption. Food is unnecessarily expensive in a country that is blessed with fertile land. Our production methods are not modern and income levels of farmers and fisherfolk remain low, thus making the sector unattractive for the youth as a sustainable means of livelihood.

Our vision for the next four years is to modernize agriculture, improve production efficiency, achieve food security, and profitability for our farmers, all aimed at significantly increasing agricultural productivity. The NPP will pursue a value-addition strategy, aimed at rapidly ramping up agro-processing and developing new and stable markets for our products.

In pursuing this vision, the NPP will do the following:

- a. increase subsidies on retail prices of seeds, fertilizers and other agrochemicals
- b. focus on developing irrigation schemes in the Afram Plains and the Northern Savannah
- c. provide a mechanism to capture the water released by the annual spillage of the Bagre dam in Burkina to use for irrigation in the north. We will also begin immediate discussions with the Government of Burkina Faso for a more controlled spillage of the dam to prevent the flooding that takes place, and
- d. facilitate the provision of community-owned and managed small-scale irrigation facilities across the country, especially in northern Ghana, through the policy of "One Village, One Dam".
- e. work to achieve the UN-recommended ratio of one extension officer to 500 farmers, with emphasis on recruiting female extension officers.
- f. revamp existing mechanization centres and support the private sector to establish, manage, and provide affordable mechanisation services to farmers.
- g. properly implement block farming devoid of the cronyism and political interference that have turned the NDC's implementation of this largely

proven farming technique into a complete failure.

- h. pay special attention to selected products for accelerated development, including grains, fruits, vegetables, tubers, oil palm, cotton, shea, cashew, cocoa, horticulture, livestock, fisheries and poultry. The NPP will help organize producers of these crops into producers' associations and pursue value addition to these products as the core strategy of an agriprocessing and agribusiness development plan and help promote them.

NPP's objective over the next four years is to restore production to over one million metric tonnes per annum. The NPP will, therefore, redesign the following policies, and position them as farmer-owned and managed programmes:

- reactivate and expand the mass spraying and Hi-tech programmes
- replant old cocoa farms with high-yielding and disease resistant plants
- we recognise the suffering many farmers have undergone due to the NDC Government's failure to compensate farmers who lose their trees to the swollen shoot disease. The NPP will reintroduce compensation payments under the cocoa disease control programme
- ensure that farmers receive increased producer prices plus bonuses high enough to encourage them to produce more cocoa for export
- ensure that the value that farmers receive for their produce is not diluted by depreciation of the cedi against the dollar
- facilitate access to farmlands for youth in cocoa producing areas
- set up special schemes to attract youth into cocoa farming
- strengthen and expand local cocoa processing, and
- intensify the search for new markets for our processed cocoa products
- in collaboration with the private sector, the NPP will facilitate the establishment of Livestock Development Centres in the three agro-climatic zones to promote the production of cattle and small ruminants like sheep and goats
- we will also ensure availability as well as the effective and transparent distribution of pre-mix fuel to fisherfolk, eliminate import duties for fishing equipment like nets and outboard motors, enforce the fisheries management policies, such as those embodied in the Fisheries Act, 2002 (Act 625),

- including on pair trawling and other illegal and unapproved fishing methods
 - continue with the programme of building landing sites and storage facilities, at places such as Cape Coast, Mumford, Teshie, Axim, Keta, Ada, Jamestown, and Winneba, and
 - restore the Korle Lagoon, including the reintroduction of its fish stocks
 - we will support the private sector to expand local production of poultry feed and veterinary products, and
 - institute anti-dumping measures on poultry
 - support selected products beyond the farm gate to incorporate post-harvest activities, including storage, transportation, processing, packaging markets and distribution by providing incentives to the private sector and District Assemblies to invest in post-harvest activities, including the building of pack houses and storage facilities both on farms and in locations close to production centres,
 - expedite the full implementation of an active Commodity Exchange using its purchasing power to create demand for locally-produced food items
- by ensuring that all foods purchased with government funds
 - facilitate and support the establishment of stakeholder-controlled marketing companies for grains and selected products, including a Cashew Marketing Authority, and
 - revive the Grains Development Board





GROWING TOGETHER:

RE-ORIENTING CAPITAL EXPENDITURE TO RURAL COMMUNITIES, INNER CITIES, COASTAL/FISHING, AND ZONGO COMMUNITIES

Growing Together consists of seven major economic initiatives, designed to take giant leaps in transforming Ghana holistically, with particular emphasis on rural and deprived communities, in a major effort at inclusive development of all parts of the country, by adopting a localised development approach.

These are:

- a. **the Infrastructure for Poverty Eradication Programme (IPEP).** Under IPEP every constituency in the country will be allocated the equivalent of \$1 Million annually to finance capital expenditure on upgrading and improving infrastructure, and/or on developing new facilities especially in rural and deprived communities.

It is envisaged, as part of their core mandate, that the three Development Authorities - Northern, Middle Belt, and Coastal - will be the primary executing agencies under the IPEP.

The Development Authorities will report directly to the Office of the President, which will ensure accountability in their operations.
- b. the restructuring of the Savannah Accelerated Development Authority (SADA) to the original design and mandate of the **Northern Development Authority (NDA) which will cover Northern, Upper East and Upper West Region. One of the major programmes of NDA will be to oversee the implementation of the “One Village, One Dam” Policy**
- c. the establishment of a **Middle Belt Development Authority (MBA)** which will be responsible for Northern Volta, the proposed “Western North Region”, Ashanti Region, Eastern Region, and the Brong Ahafo Region. The MBA will administer the IPEP in these areas.
- d. the establishment of a **Coastal Development Authority (CDA), covering** the coastal areas of Volta and the Western Regions, and the Greater Accra and Central Regions. Again, the CDA will administer the IPEP in these areas.
- e. the establishment of a **Zongo Development Fund** to invest in:

GROWING TOGETHER:

- education and training within the Zongos
 - improved infrastructure in the Zongos targeting health and sanitation
 - supporting local businesses and centres of culture and arts, and
 - community policing and security.
- f. the creation of a new, **“Western North”** Administrative Region in order to open it up for accelerated development, and
 - g. the restructuring of the **Royalty Sharing Ratios with Mining Communities** to increase the share of revenues that mining communities currently receive in royalty payments to 20% from the current 10%



INFRASTRUCTURE



Infrastructure development under the Mahama-led NDC government has been characterised by massive corruption through contract overpricing, opaque and shady contracting processes, and gross abuse of the sole sourcing provisions of the Public Procurement Act, 2003 (Act 663).

However, the cost of building the new 600-bed teaching hospital by the University of Ghana is \$30m less than the cost of renovating and expanding the Ridge Hospital from a 200-bed to a 420-bed facility.

These are just a few examples of the corrupt nature of infrastructure development under the Mahama-led NDC government. Indeed, given the resources at its disposal, the nation should have received at least four to five times the quantum of investment that the NDC claims to have undertaken in terms of infrastructure development.

Under an Integrated Infrastructure Development Programme (IIDP), the NPP will take measures to curb the massive corruption in the infrastructure development sector and to ensure that Ghana receives Value-for-money on all such projects. The key component of our IIDP are:

- a. the National Asset Protection Project
- b. development of interconnected Roads, Railways, Ports & Harbours (RRHPs) Systems
- c. development of an aviation hub for international & regional airlines
- d. a Water For All Programme to ensure every Ghanaian has access to potable water
- e. Food Control Interventions
- f. mainstreaming ICT in governance & public service delivery, and
- g. a quality, affordable Housing For All Strategy

Our principal financing and executive strategy will be mutually beneficial Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). Some of the key programmes under these are:

- a. unlocking, under the National Asset Protection Project, the billions of Ghana cedis in numerous uncompleted projects scattered around the country by conducting physical and financial audit to locate, identify,

- value, securitise, and raise funding on the back of this to complete viable projects. This will ensure continuity in development as funds will be available to continue projects started by predecessor governments.
- b. adhering strictly to the provisions of the Procurement Law in order to reduce high project costs and obtain value for money in project award and
 - c. pass legislation for at least 20% of road contracts, awarded to foreign contractors, to be sub-contracted to local contractors
 - d. completely overhauling the Western and Eastern Lines to facilitate the haulage of bauxite, manganese, cocoa, cement, iron ore and other bulk commodities as well as the transportation of people. The rehabilitation of the Eastern Line, in particular, will also facilitate the operation of the Boankra Inland Port which has been rendered inoperable as a result of the non-functioning of the line. The activation of the Boankra Inland Port will lead to the creation of thousands of jobs.
 - e. developing an integrated Light Rail Transit System for our major cities to connect main business districts with outlying residential locations
 - f. extending the Eastern Rail Line from Kumasi to Paga, to create an Accra-Kumasi-Paga connection to facilitate haulage of goods from, and to the North, and the exploitation of iron ore and other mineral reserves in the North, and
 - g. building a Tema-Akosombo Rail Link to tie in with a vibrant and revived Volta Lake transportation system to provide a major avenue for expanded transportation and the resulting economic activity.
 - h. expanding the Takoradi Harbour to Sekondi as well as constructing a logistics centre in Sekondi.
 - i. constructing new harbours at Jamestown in Accra and in Keta. These investments will also increase the volume of business from landlocked countries in the region.
 - j. building, in collaboration with the private sector, new entry points into major cities like Accra, Takoradi, Kumasi and Tamale, and
 - k. constructing, in collaboration with the private sector, by-passes and interchanges at major intersections like Point 7, Tamale, the Tema Motorway Roundabout, the Suame Roundabout and Oforikrom Intersection in Kumasi, and the Takoradi PTC Roundabout.
 - l. reducing the price of aviation fuel to match prices in the region to make our airports more competitive and domestic airlines viable
 - m. abolishing the 17.5% VAT on domestic air fares, and
 - n. encourage and support local airlines and entrepreneurs to set up strong

- private airlines that can fully utilize all the nation's route rights.
- o. sinking at least 25,000 new boreholes and an additional 300 small town water supply systems in the rural areas and small towns
- p. undertaking major water systems (treatment plants and associated distribution systems)
- q. constructing storm drains in Accra and other cities and towns to deal with the recurrent, devastating floods.
- r. establishing a National Hydrology Authority (NHA), which will be responsible for, and shall plan, develop, maintain, protect and administer drainage, flood control measures, major dams and sea defence measures, including construction of major storm drains to reduce the risk of flooding, constant dredging and desilting of our water ways and drains to ensure the free flow of flood waters.
- s. placing ICT, and especially data science, including analytics, at the centre of the national development agenda, by completing the registration of all residents in Ghana under the National Identification Scheme within the first year of taking office, establishing an integrated Data Warehouse of databases from key public institutions, using the National Identification System as the unique identifier for data items, and automating the processes involved
 - in accessing public services at both national and local government offices
 - t. developing ICT Incubator Hubs in various regional capitals to create business opportunities in the private sector, and as part of our efforts to digitize access to social and public services and to invest in technology
 - u. establishing land banks with infrastructure such as roads, drainage, water and power in place for the development of affordable housing units on a public-private partnership (PPP) basis
 - v. abolishing the 5% VAT on real estate sales
 - w. working with identifiable groups such as the Trades Union Congress (TUC), Ghana National Association of Teachers (GNAT), National Association of Graduate Teachers (NAGRAT), Farmer's Groups and other trade groups to facilitate the construction of homes for their members through the provision of the appropriate financing guarantees
 - x. fully implement section 103 (assignment of pension benefits for housing of workers) of the National Pensions Act, 2008 (Act 766)
 - y. facilitate also the development of an active mortgage market to expand mortgage loans to Ghanaians.



NATURAL RESOURCES – LAND, FORESTRY AND MINING



The country is richly endowed with natural resources like fertile lands, lakes, rivers, forests, wildlife, fish and minerals which are vital for her development.

The NPP policy on forestry resources will seek to rehabilitate degraded forest reserve areas through planting of fast-growing indigenous and exotic species, conservation and sustainable use of natural resources support conservation and biodiversity.

We will:

- a. target annually 30,000 hectares (ha) of degraded areas within and outside forest reserves for reforestation and plantation development.
- b. support the annual establishment of 1,000 hectares of bamboo and rattan plantations and will encourage, individuals and private sector involvement through the provision of subsidized planting materials.
- c. support the enhancement of the ecotourism industry.
- f. comprehensively protect our water catchment areas, through the **Clean Rivers Programme (CRP)**
- e. commit to ensuring that turnaround time for land registration is reduced to 30 working days
- f. ensuring that mineral revenues are efficiently managed for the benefit of Ghanaians. The NPP will enact a consolidated Mineral Revenue Management Law, similar to the Petroleum Revenue Management Act 2011 (Act 815), to guide the use of mineral revenues in strategic sectors of our economy
- g. reconstruct the small scale mining industry so that its activities can take place within guidelines set up under the appropriate regulations. This will enable small scale miners to work and earn their livelihoods in a regulated, secure, and lawful environment.



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT



Science and technology contributes less than 1% of Ghana's GDP, compared to an average of 2.5% in the rest of Africa. It is the NPP's intention to achieve at least 1.5% over the next four years.

We will:

- a. establish a Presidential Advisory Council for Science and Technology (PACST) as an advisory group to directly advise the President on all matters and policies regarding science, technology and innovation
- b. expand the research and development capabilities of the country through the establishment of Regional Technology Parks, and
- c. in collaboration with the private sector and international financial institutions, establish a flagship system of Ghana Centres of Excellence (GCEs) across the country that networks all Higher Education Institutes (HEIs), including all other research organizations such as Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)'s institutes and Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana (CRIG). The GCEs will cover themes such as:

- biomedical engineering
- pharmaceutical technology and bioequivalence research
- crop improvements and seed technology
- environment and sanitation engineering
- energy engineering
- manufacturing equipment engineering
- agricultural technology
- food process engineering
- building technology, and
- electronics and electronic assembly,

At least 3 GCEs would be established by the end of 2020.

- d. support the national policy of achieving 60:40 student ratio for the Sciences as compared to the Humanities by expanding STEM scholarship schemes



EDUCATION



We aim to shift the structure and content of our education system from merely passing examinations to building character, nurturing values, and raising literate, confident, and engaged citizens who can think critically.

The NPP will:

- a. create a Consultative Council of Researchers, the Association of Ghanaian Industries, Ghana Chamber of Commerce, Representatives of Major Banks and Venture Capital Funds to source for funding to take research finding from the laboratory to the market place
- b. establish a Manufacturing Plant at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology for the production of prototypes of the inventions and creations of scientists and innovators in the country. The Plant will build prototypes
- c. reintegrate physical education and recreation into mainstream education
- d. ensure that kindergarten places are available for all four-year old children in the country.
- e. redefine basic education to include Senior High School (SHS), covering vocational, agricultural and technical schools, and make it available for free on a universal basis to all Ghanaians
- f. build an effective partnership with religious bodies, civic organizations and the private sector in the delivery of quality education. This partnership will also include the areas of management, supervision and training of teachers in their units.
- g. teachers will be treated with respect and we shall ensure that teachers' salaries and allowances are paid regularly and on time.
- h. focus on the provision of incentives that will motivate teachers, and reward their hard work in the classroom
- i. collaborate with GNAT, NAGRAT, and other teaching associations to facilitate an affordable housing scheme for teachers
- j. ensure that teachers who upgrade their qualifications and skills are promoted promptly and that their salary increases take immediate effect



EDUCATION

- k. ensure proper decentralization of teachers' recruitment and other document processing activities and relieve teachers of the frustrating, bureaucratic processing of documents at the centre.
- l. aggressively promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education across all levels of the education system.
- m. We shall put in place a programme for the popularization and better teaching of the French language in our schools
- n. strengthen the participation of the Missions in the Mission-founded schools. Arabic/Islamic Instructors in the Zongos and parts of Northern Ghana were paid allowances under the National Volunteer Service Programme by the Kufuor-led NPP government. These were discontinued by the NDC government.
- o. restore allowances to Arabic/ Islamic instructors and additionally support Arabic/Islamic instructors with training and other incentives to motivate them to provide good training to our children. We will also introduce Arabic as an optional language to be taught and examined at the JHS and SHS levels.
- p. provide sporting facilities and revive sporting competitions among schools
- q. ensure that children with special needs are, whenever possible, integrated within regular schools.
- r. improve the facilities and the curriculum for ICT education at all levels or offices around
- s. in collaboration with the private sector, provide free WiFi coverage for senior secondary and tertiary institutions nationwide dedicated to learning, administration and enhancing the capacity to do research.
- t. the Book and Research allowances for lecturers will be restored, and we will establish a Research Fund to facilitate further research and innovation.
- u. We will also abolish the payment of utility bills by students.
- v. We will also increase the amount of loans under the Student Loan Scheme and restructure to streamline its administration to enhance recovery of the loans.
- w. reactivate the original aim of linking Technical/Vocational institutions to Technical Universities to refocus on technical education and position them to be at the forefront of the NPP's One District, One Factory programme.
- x. encourage the Colleges of Education to update their curricula to ensure its graduates are well-equipped, and
- y. restore in full, teacher trainee allowances

HEALTH



The health system in the country is critical for national development. The vision of the NPP is to see that the right to health of all Ghanaians is guaranteed through an established health sector with sustainable ability to deliver affordable, equitable and easily accessible healthcare.

To realise this vision, the NPP will expand health promotion programmes, scale up disease prevention strategies and improve access to curative and emergency services, through vigorous human resource and health infrastructure development and strengthening of the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS).

Under the leadership of President J.A. Kufuor, the NPP improved the health of Ghanaians by the:

- i. introduction and implementation of NHIS and free maternal care
- ii. implementation of the Community Health Planning and Service concept
- iii. establishment of the National Ambulance Service
- iv. expansion, equipping and increasing of the number of health facilities
- v. capacity building and increase of the number of health professionals

- vi. establishment of the Ghana Postgraduate Medical College
- vii. introduction of Regenerative Health and Nutrition through health promotion programmes
- viii. improvement of the provision of vaccine for preventable childhood diseases
- ix. provision of highly subsidized anti-retroviral medicines for HIV/AIDS patients, and
- x. introduction of sanitation programmes.

NPP will:

- a. revive the National Health Insurance Scheme to make it efficient, with capacity to finance health services on a timely basis in a bid to achieve universal health coverage for all Ghanaians by:
 - reviewing and restructuring the sources of funding, as well as the institutional arrangements for the management of the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF)
 - increasing budgetary allocations to the NHIS

- directing and strictly ceding all funds raised through the NHIA Levy into the NHIF, and concentrating on activities that focus on quality patient treatment, medication, and care
 - utilising the best in technology and health insurance management protocols to tackle waste, corruption, and insurance claim fraud under the NHIS. This will include completely phasing out the manual processing of claims (claims management) which currently stands at about 90%, tightly linking services and drugs to hospital attendance, and treatment to diagnosis
 - adopting a modernised strategy towards drugs procurement, including the establishment of a preferred pharmacy network, incentivising appropriate prescriptions, and gradually shifting away from the Central Medical Stores arrangement, and
 - emphasising preventive healthcare
- b. invest in the expansion and equipping of medical schools to train more medical doctors
 - c. restore trainee nurses' allowances in full
 - d. provide free specialist postgraduate training in our established postgraduate training institutions, and
- e. restore and streamline tax reliefs, abolished by the NDC government, which facilitated the purchase of vehicles by healthcare workers under the Kufuor-led NPP government
 - f. build an Accident and Emergency Centre in Takoradi,
 - g. upgrade all existing District Hospitals where they exist, and where they do not, establish one. NPP's aim is for each District to have at least one hospital
 - h. strengthen the flagship Community Health Planning Services (CHPS) programme in the areas of community participation, infrastructure and financing, quality service delivery by skilled health staff, supervision and monitoring, and surveillance and disease control
 - i. work with the private sector to establish a world class Research & Laboratory Centre within a responsive National Laboratory System
 - j. improve the drug supply chain by expanding rapidly local production and ensuring quality affordable drugs are available
 - k. work with the private sector to establish trauma centres within hospitals along the main highways, in order to facilitate medical treatment of citizens in cases of accidents

- l. make accessible, affordable and of high quality the continuum of care a woman experiences through fertility period to delivery, including the health of children
- m. promoting good nutrition and physical activity as a shared national value
- n. implementing a comprehensive plan for the safe disposal of biomedical waste
- o. incorporating traditional medicine in the health delivery system
- p. improve efficiency to ensure limited resources are used prudently, and make sure existing hospitals and clinics are adequately supplied with basic drugs, gloves, syringes, oxygen, and anti-snake serum, many of which are not even available in some teaching hospitals.
- q. recognising the increasing incidence of cancers (childhood cancers, breast cancer, cervical cancer, prostate and other cancers) as a national problem, establish centres at all levels of our healthcare delivery system for screening, diagnosis, early detection and prevention of these cancers, paid for under the restructured and revitalised NHIS.



SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



The NPP aims to create a society of fair opportunities for all Ghanaians. Building on the far-reaching social intervention policies of the Kufuor-led NPP administration, such as the National Youth Employment Programme (NYEP), Capitation Grant, the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS), Free Maternal Care, Microfinance and Small Loan Centre (MASLOC), Mass Cocoa Spraying Exercise, Metro Mass Transit Transport Service, Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP) and the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty Programme (LEAP), the NPP will help create a fair and inclusive society, which ensures that all citizens share in the country's wealth and prosperity.

This will be achieved by establishing a well-funded, functioning welfare system which addresses the needs of the weak, marginalised, vulnerable and socially excluded.

The NPP will:

- a. amend the Disability Act to bring it into line with the UN Convention on Disability, and pass appropriate Legislative Instruments for the implantation of the Mental Health Act, 2012 (Act 846) and the Disability Act, 2006 (Act 715)
- b. staff and properly resource the National Council on Persons with Disability in partnership with civil society organisations, decentralize it to the regional level, enforce section 18 of the Disability Act that provides for free education for persons with disability, implement the 3% increase in Common Fund disbursements to persons with disability, announced in 2012, but which remains unimplemented, and ensure that the portion of DACF meant for persons with disability are disbursed through the decentralized district and regional offices of the NCPD
- c. refocus the LEAP programme, which has become a blatant source of political patronage, by, among other things, adopting effective, accurate means-testing to target, identify and enrol properly beneficiary households
- d. institute measures to reduce administrative cost of the Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP) to the barest minimum, and stimulate local agricultural growth, by requiring caterers to buy and use foodstuff grown locally from local farmers.

- e. mainstream aging issues into national development frameworks and poverty eradication strategies by establishing
 - farmers (including ancillary farm hands) in our major cash crop agricultural sectors like cocoa, coffee, sheanuts, palm oil, pineapple and cashew nuts; and
 - members of small scale business associations included in umbrella organizations such as GPRTU/PROTOA, Association of Small Scale Enterprises (ASSE), mechanics (fitters) and similar associations across the country.
- f. ensure that funds of the National Pensions Regulatory Authority (NPRA) are applied solely for the development of the pensions industry
- g. fully implement section 103 (assignment of pension benefits for housing of workers) of the National Pensions Act, 2008 (Act 766)
- h. pay all outstanding contributions to pension funds, including Tier 2 contributions, for public sector workers
- i. use the appropriate information technology platform to decentralize and automate pension payments, and establish desks in each District Assembly for this purpose
- j. provide the aged with a Freedom Pass to enable them ride for free on all public transportation, and
- k. undertake a comprehensive review of SSNIT's investments and costs to ensure its financial sustainability.
- l. appointment of women to at least 30% of available public office positions
- m. setting aside 50% of MASLOC funds for female applicants
- n. reducing the Kayayei (Head Porters) phenomenon by:
 - improving the economy of their districts of origin to curb the migration
 - providing alternate life skills training and seed capital, as well as partnering the private sector, NGOs and charities to provide temporary hostel facilities
 - we will work with the District Assemblies to exempt Kayayei from market tolls and taxes currently imposed on them, and
 - improving their access to education and health care.
- o. introducing a District Integrated Social Services programme for children, families and vulnerable adults to consolidate the relevant health, education, and justice systems, as well as all social protection programmes

GOVERNANCE, CORRUPTION AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY



The fundamental requirement for sustainable development is good governance.

The NPP is irrevocably committed to the establishment of a solid, efficient machinery for good governance, comprising accountable government and respect for the rule of law and human rights.

The NPP will:

- a. establish, by an Act of Parliament, an Office of the Special Prosecutor, who will be independent of the Executive, to investigate and prosecute certain categories of cases and allegations of corruption and other criminal wrongdoing, including those involving alleged violations of the Public Procurement Act and cases implicating political officeholders and politicians.
- b. enhance accountability in governance by promoting the effective separation of powers. Adequate provision to secure the independence of the Judiciary will be made and we will help to strengthen the institutional capacity of Parliament to solidify

parliamentary oversight of the Executive.

- c. require the President to within 14 days, forward a list of appointments, made in pursuant of Chapter 24 of the Constitution, to the Auditor General, that the Auditor General publish periodically the list of all persons appointed under Chapter 24 of the Constitution and amend the law relating to asset declaration to provide for sanctions which may include forfeiture of appointment
- d. establish an automatic mechanism for transfer of statutory funds to designated agencies such as the Ghana Education Trust Fund (GETFund), District Assemblies Common Fund (DACF) and NHIS as stipulated by law.
- e. amend the relevant sections of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29), particularly sections 3, 151, and 239-257, to make corruption a felony rather than a misdemeanour
- f. reform laws to set time limits within which an appointing authority must fill any vacancy or confirm a person

- acting in that office where that institution has a watchdog role
- g. ensure the passage of the Right to Information bill if the present Parliament delays in doing so
 - h. ensure the strict enforcement of the Public Procurement Act, 2003 (Act 663)
 - i. ensure transparency by establishing a transaction price database, which will be periodically reviewed to conform to market trends
 - j. bring to an end the prevailing regime of impunity, where people found to have stolen or fraudulently benefited from public funds are merely requested by the Attorney General to refund same on their own terms or are sheltered at the Office of the President, and also ensure the implementation of the recommendations of the Auditor General and Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of Parliament, and
 - k. sponsor the establishment of an interactive website for public reporting of corrupt practices in accordance with the Whistle Blower's Act, 2006 (Act 720).



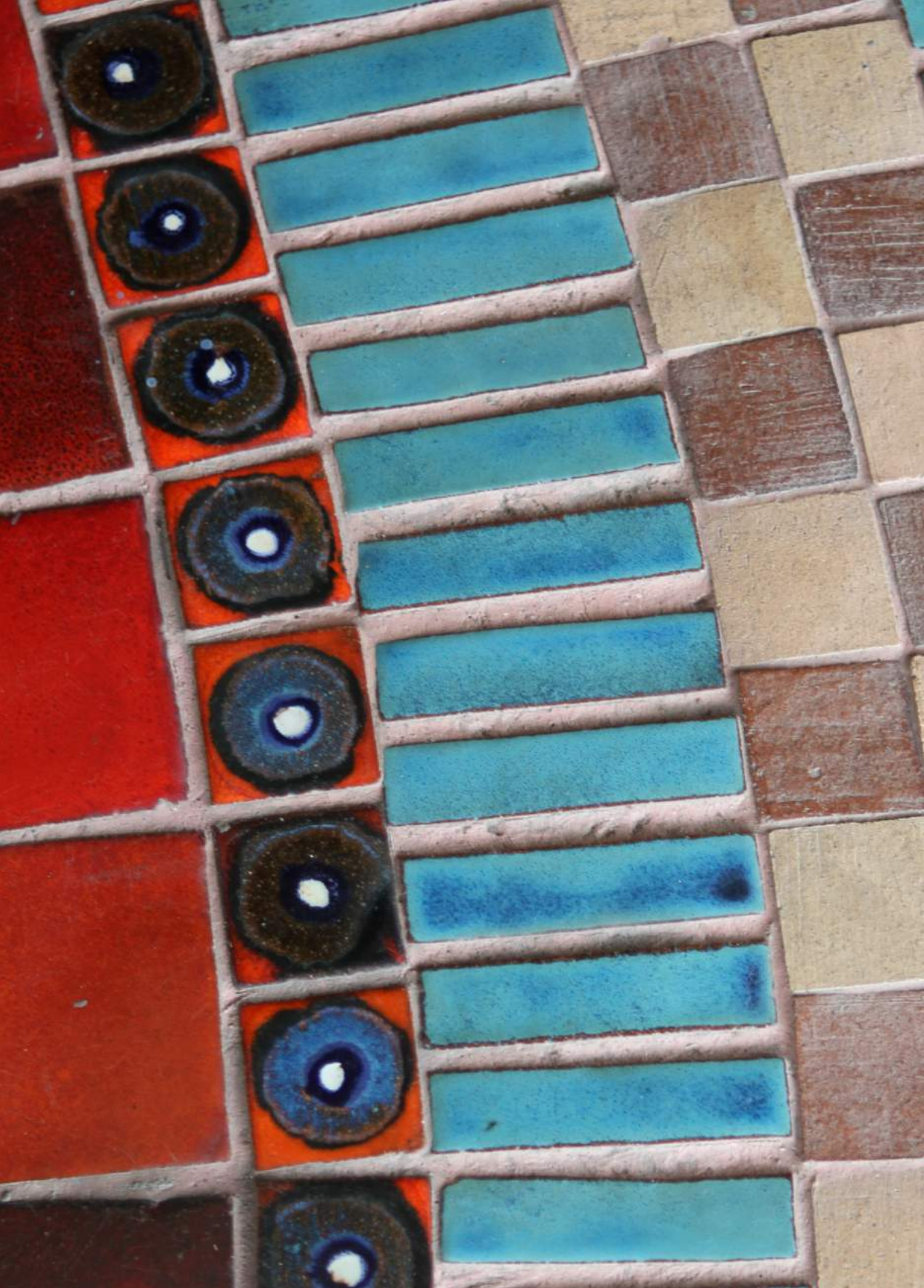
LOCAL GOVERNMENT



The NPP is committed to bringing governance to the doorsteps of the people. We will focus on effective and efficient decentralization through greater grassroots participation, better planning and improved service delivery in local communities.

NPP will:

- a. oversee the direct election of Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives (MMDCEs) within 24 months of election into office, to coincide with the next District Assembly elections in 2019
- b. strengthen the sub-structures of MMDAs through capacity building and adequate resource allocation
- c. strengthen the role of traditional authorities within the local government system, and
- d. improve allowances paid to assembly members.
- e. upgrade the Tamale campus of Institute of Local Government Service (ILGS) into a modern state-of-the-art institute to train local government practitioners and staff in northern Ghana.
- f. abolishing the current practice of central Government manipulation of the DACF through the procurement process
- g. decentralizing and equipping the Land Valuation Board (LVB) to provide direct technical support on property valuation to MMDAs for enhanced revenue mobilization
- h. ensuring the speedy enactment of the Municipal Finance Bill, initiated by the Kufuor-led NPP administration, into law. This law will provide space to MMDAs to access funds from the capital market for rapid socio economic development and partner the private sector to provide job opportunities to local people
- i. ensure the consolidation of all existing national sanitation policies, plans and programmes into a Comprehensive National Sanitation Programme and Action Plan, and establish a National Sanitation Fund to fund this.



SECURITY



The NPP Government will secure peace and security for all Ghanaians. Under the NPP Government, Ghanaians will feel safe on the streets and in their homes. Ghanaians will go about their daily business in the secure knowledge that their persons, properties and lives are safe under an NPP Government.

The NPP will ensure that our security personnel are also adequately prepared to deal with the emerging threats of terrorism and cybercrime, which will be another major priority of our government.

We will:

- a. as part of our overall commitment to improving the living conditions of our security personnel, the NPP will roll out a National Barracks Regeneration Programme that will invest in rehabilitating and upgrading their living quarters across the country.
- b. review and restructure recruitment into our police service to stamp out the fraud and cronyism that have been introduced into this process by the Mahama-led NDC government
- c. continue to recruit additional personnel, with increased recruitment of women, into the police service, as we work towards the target of meeting the U.N. ratio of 1:500 police to civilians
- d. provide the police with modern communication and policing equipment
- e. build two new police hospitals at Sunyani and Bolgatanga to serve the health needs of police personnel
- f. build 2 new police training schools
- g. harmonise and standardise police training across the country, and improve and resource all police training institutions, including the command college at Winneba
- h. complete the third phase of the 37 Military Hospital project, as well as upgrade its equipment to meet modern medical challenges, having constructed the second phase
- i. construct a new military hospital in Tamale to service the health needs of military personnel and their families in the northern sector of the country.
- j. continue local and foreign training for Armed Forces personnel

- k. commit to adjusting upwards the allowances in line with new increases by the UN
- l. ensure that personnel who serve in UN Peacekeeping Missions are paid at their duty post.
- m. take immediate steps to decongest our prisons, and introduce a system to separate remand and convicted inmates, reform pre-trial detention, prison management, sentencing, including non-custodial sentences, social integration, and health facilities for prisoners, prison officers and civilian employees
- n. offering competitive remuneration to enable the Service attract the best personnel
- o. building two Prison Service hospitals, one each in the Southern and Northern sectors of the country.
- p. provide each district with a Fire Service station where none exists. Where there is one, the NPP will upgrade it as required to meet the minimum standards expected of a modern, well-equipped fire station
- q. offering competitive remuneration to enable the Service attract the best personnel.
- r. n recognition of their multiple roles, and also as part of the NPP's aim to grow rapidly our tourism and hospitality sector, we shall pay particular attention to the training and incentivisation of the personnel of the Immigration Service. In particular, we will offer extensive training in specialist areas in the growing areas of crime detection and prevention, customer service relations, and trends in global cross-border crimes and anti-terrorism tactics. We will also provide modern and strategic equipment to make them more efficient, as well as offering competitive remuneration to enable the Service attract the best personnel.
- s. introduce a robust and comprehensive anti-narcotic drug and anti-organised crime policy with severe sanctions and penalties to serve as deterrence for potential offenders. Our overall plan will concentrate on six (6) key areas: education, prevention, collaboration, detection, sanctions and rehabilitation, as well as strengthen the country's detection institutions and systems.
- t. take all necessary measures to curb the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and enforce laws on their illegal possession, manufacturing and trade.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Our foreign policy will be one of the principal agents of Ghana's socio-economic resurgence. The NPP will improve on the efficiency and effectiveness of our foreign missions. We will redirect their emphasis to the search for economic opportunities with the view to opening markets for Ghanaian goods, while attracting foreign investments into the Ghanaian economy.

We will:

- a. review existing policies to take into account the new world order with respect to developments like Brexit and the emergence of the BRICS nations.
- b. prioritise the development of economic opportunities in our foreign policy, by opening up markets abroad for Ghanaian goods and services and attracting foreign investments.
- c. task our diplomatic missions to link our businessmen with foreign counterparts in strategic alliances and partnerships to develop the private sector, and to market the country as an attractive destination for foreign investment.
- d. put in place a policy framework that would encourage those, who may or may not have acquired other citizenships to bring their skills back home to assist in the development of our country.
- e. expand further the opportunities that will allow Ghanaians living abroad to participate fully in our national discourse and benefit fully from the opportunities this nation has to offer by facilitating the implementation of the Representation of The People's Law, 1992 (PNDCL 284), as amended (alias ROPAL), and
- f. the Diaspora Affairs Bureau will also be moved from the Foreign Ministry to the Office of the President to coordinate more effectively all matters affecting Ghanaians in the diaspora.



YOUTH AND SPORTS



It is obvious that it is the youth who will drive the discovery of new technologies, innovation and growth in the future. The NPP's national youth policy is designed to help shape our youth for this role through developing leadership skills, quality education, entrepreneurship, job skills, creative skills and sports. We will create an enabling environment to build the capacity of our youth to take on more active roles in our country's future and its development.

NPP will:

- a. set up a Youth Development Authority (YDA) to harmonise and coordinate all government-sponsored youth initiatives and policies
- b. establish a Youth Enterprises Fund (YEF) that will provide funding and business development services for businesses owned by young entrepreneurs, especially start-ups
- c. develop industrial parks in all regions targeting young Ghanaians, who start or wish to start small businesses, to provide them with access to workspaces, equipment and basic services, including electricity and water
- d. implement our proposed policy that ensures businesses established by young entrepreneurs under the Youth Enterprise Fund (YEF) participate in bidding for the 30% of the required 70% of Government-funded contracts to be sourced from entities owned by women, persons with disability and young persons
- e. offer tax incentives to young entrepreneurs to encourage them to initiate start-ups
- f. introduce tax credits and other incentives for companies that hire young graduates from tertiary institutions
- g. concentrate on ICT training to create job avenues locally and offshore for our youth, and
- h. institute a Buy-Local policy for Government agencies with regards to ICT to ensure that applications and software are procured from local ICT firms
- i. enact the comprehensive Sports Bill initiated under President Kufuor
- j. develop in partnership with the private sector, Youth Development &

YOUTH AND SPORTS

Sports Centres in all Regions. Each centre will house a fully-equipped library, ICT hub, social hall, multi-purpose pitches and courts

- k. complete the construction of the University of Ghana stadium started by the Kufuor-led NPP government
- l. pursue the vision of providing modern multi-sport stadia for the regions currently without one, namely Brong Ahafo, Eastern, Upper East, Upper West and Volta
- m. establish three sports colleges in collaboration with the private sector
- n. develop a Youth in Sports module to support young sportsmen and women and to create job opportunities for them
- o. invest in a special Women-In-Sports programme to help unearth and support female athletes and sports talents across the country, and
- p. award scholarships to promising young athletes so they can develop in the best of environments.



TOURISM, CULTURE AND CREATIVE ARTS



The NPP government will focus on transforming the country into a major Meeting, Incentive, Conference, & Exhibition (MICE) centre, as well as on expanding the tourism sector, through investment, innovation, the pursuit of service excellence and meaningful partnerships. This will enable tourism to become a major revenue-generating sector that provides safe, memorable and enjoyable experience for tourists.

We will:

- a. aggressively develop our tourist sites to bring them to world-class standards, complete with the requisite amenities and facilities
- b. pursue a deliberate marketing programme to promote our unique historical sites, flora and fauna, waterfalls and other cultural artefacts
- c. take the staffing of these tourist sites and our hospitality industry as a whole seriously. To improve professionalism in the sector, we will partner with the private sector to set up a state-of-the-art hospitality teaching facility, with an operational hotel, classrooms, kitchens, library, and dormitories
- d. encourage local communities to take ownership and be invested in the sustainability of tourist attractions in their localities, The NPP will champion a revenue-sharing programme to inject 5% of tourism revenues from fees of well-developed tourist attractions into local community projects
- e. promote domestic tourism, by making it an aggressive plank of our tourism strategy with a marketing drive centred on entrenching a tourism culture among Ghanaians
- f. reviewed and actively implement the Culture Policy developed under the Kufuor-led NPP government to give our culture pride of place in our national development.
- g. build a detailed inventory of all our cultural assets, so the nation has a database of these assets.
- h. he Copyright Act 2005 (Act 690), among other provisions, provides for the protection of Adinkra symbols and the older Kente designs as expression of folklore. The NPP will ensure that the provisions regarding the protection of Kente and Adinkra designs are strictly enforced against

- illicit exploitation by foreign interests, to enable the country maximize revenue through the proper marketing of these heirlooms.
- i. establish a Creative Arts Fund to make available funds to modernize and develop the sector
 - j. create a Division of the High Court, focusing on the Creative Arts to deal with all matters relating to intellectual property rights, complete with a dedicated enforcement unit
 - k. establish a Creative Arts Council to coordinate and harmonize the various interests and fragmented associations into a well-functioning body to protect the interests of members.
 - l. collaborate with private sector interests to acquire the technology and equipment needed to log creative works, in order to determine true and deserved royalties.
 - m. promote regional and district literature, music, dance and drama competitions, particularly in schools and colleges, and
 - n. pursue the construction of modern large seating theatres in every regional capital except Accra, beginning with Takoradi, Tamale and Kumasi, as well as setting up an additional Copyright Office in Tamale to cater for the northern sector in addition to the existing ones in Accra and Kumasi.



CHIEFTAINCY, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS AND CIVIL SOCIETY



The NPP will give due deference to Chiefs as the embodiment of the history and traditions of our people and will support the Chieftaincy institution to preserve, sustain and employ the traditional and cultural values, as well as practices that accelerate wealth creation and social harmony for total development.

We will:

- a. ensure the prompt payment of royalties and Consolidated Funds disbursements due Chiefs, Queen Mothers and Traditional Councils to enable them carry out their functions
- b. provide government support to the institution of Chieftaincy in the performance of their duties, their evolution and further modernization
- c. support the National House of Chiefs to codify and systematize traditional laws and culture
- d. consult traditional authorities on appointments to local government institutions.
- e. continue to engage actively religious organizations as the leading moral-cultural institutions that have a key role in moulding the character and conduct of our citizens.
- f. ensure that religious bodies in the health sector receive their NHIS payments promptly and commits to payments of existing debts expeditiously.
- g. launch a new era of cooperation and collaboration with civil society to improve governance and enhance the well-being of Ghanaians. We will work to ensure that the community develops and thrives.
- h. create the enabling legislative and economic environment for philanthropy to blossom and promote a new era of giving, knowing that a prosperous Ghana makes it easier for individuals and organisations to support civil society, and
- i. concentrate on interventions that will unleash the potential of all, including the vulnerable, weak and excluded, particularly women, children and PLWDs. We will protect their rights and eradicate or reform harmful, inhumane and inimical cultural and traditional practices.



SUPPORT NANA

GOOD

VISION

CONCLUSION

The solutions we have set out in this document have been well-considered. They are a response to the real problems faced by the Ghanaian people as a result of the mismanagement, incompetence and corruption of the Mahama-led NDC government.

This Manifesto is our commitment to the people of Ghana. It is a social contract between ourselves and the people of Ghana. We aim to restore hope and to get the country back to working again and relieve the hardships of our people. The plans we have set out are for the long term sustainable development of our country. With the help of the Almighty God, the NPP will build in Ghana the most people friendly and the most business friendly economy in Africa, which will create prosperity for the great majority of our people, and thereby secure the stability of our society and the peace of the nation.

We have an excellent team of men and women who are ready and eager to serve our beloved Ghana. We have a well-thought out programme, and we have a track record of good performance in government. So support us and together, let's get Ghana working again.

The future is bright.

God bless Ghana, God bless us all.





