

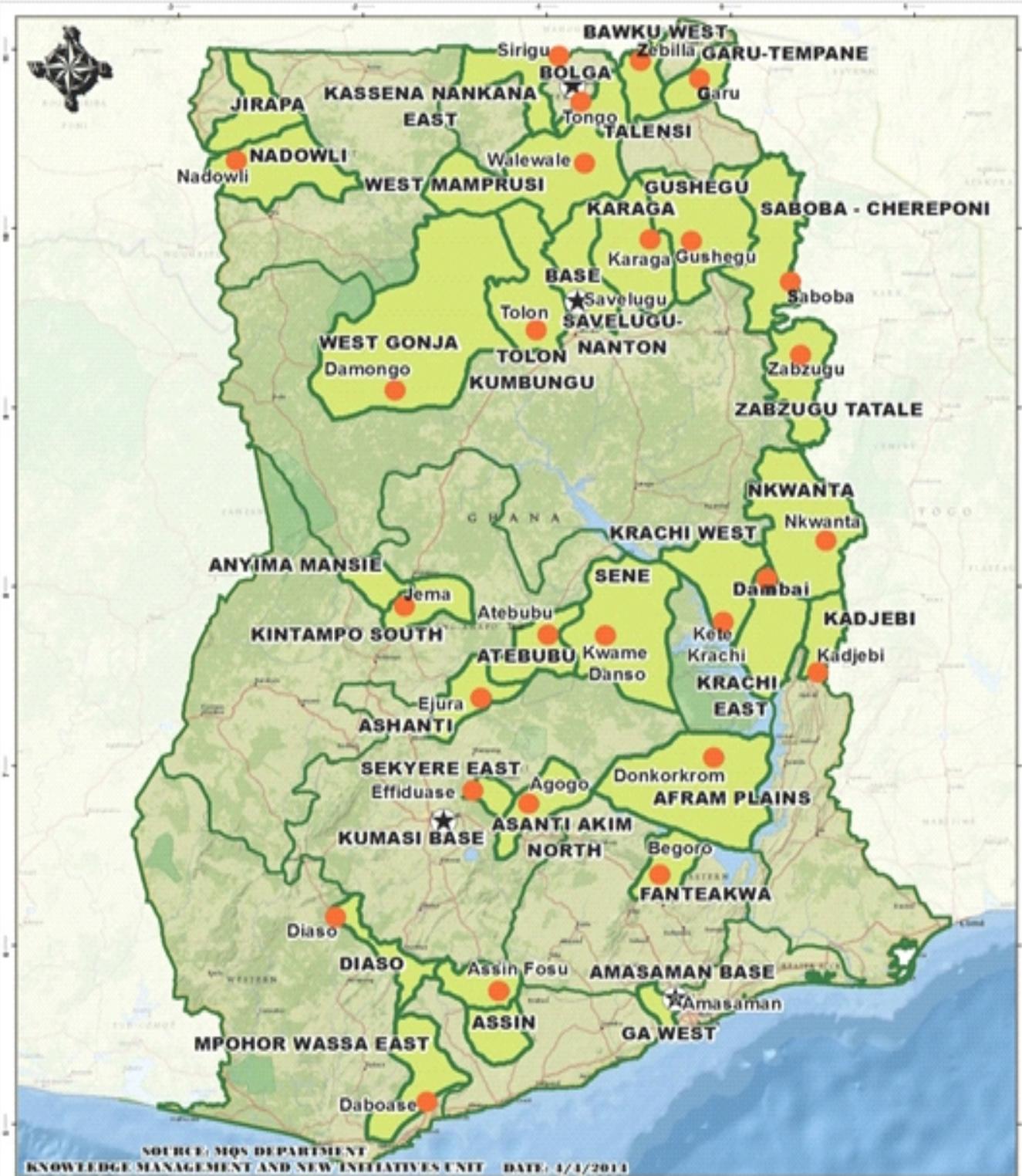
VISIONTIMES

A Publication of World Vision Ghana Advisory Council

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WORLD VISION GHANA AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES - FY14



SOURCE: MQS DEPARTMENT
KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND NEW INITIATIVES UNIT DATE: 1/1/2014

LEGEND

- Area Development Programme Office
- ★ Operations Base Office
- Programme Impact Area



PROJECTION INFORMATION

Projection: Transverse Mercator
 False Easting: 900000.000000
 False Northing: 0.000000
 Central Meridian: -1.000000
 Scale Factor: 0.999750
 Latitude Of Origin: 4.666667



Foreword

With a gladdened heart, I bring to bear the pivotal role World Vision Advisory Council is playing as far as child well-being is concerned in the various communities we work in across the country by willingly empowering them and providing a livable environment for all.

As Chair of the Advisory Council, our involvement in World Vision's activities during 2014 was an exciting experience. We launched the 35th Anniversary celebrations and commissioned several life-changing projects. During the Advisory Council's visit to Bolgatanga we learned of the transformation taking place in the lives of vulnerable children and their families. We interacted with Chiefs, District Chief Executives, staff and children who spoke of the changes in the health of children as a result of increased access to clean water, dignified sanitation and practice of proper personal hygiene.

Council members had the opportunity to participate in the launch of two campaigns (Child Health Now, and Improved Sanitation). Additionally, Advisory Council members were involved in events such as; launch of 35th Anniversary celebration and

Annual Report, 35th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service, Day of Prayer, Carol's Service and led Staff Joint Devotion in turns at the end of every month.

The publication of "Vision Times" is a laudable initiative that will allow us to document and share with our friends and partners the work we do to improve the lives of children, families and their communities. I would like to thank my fellow Advisory Council members, the Senior Leadership, and staff for their support in making our vision, mission and values prominent in all aspects of our work.

My fervent prayer is that whatever we do in the coming months, we will work at it with all our hearts, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.

I wish you all the best!

Dr. (Mrs.) Adelaide Kastner,
Chairperson
World Vision Ghana Advisory Council

Staff and Advisory Council Observe Day of Prayer

The Fiscal Year 2015 began with a Day of Prayer (DOP), when World Vision Partnership thanked God for His guidance and protection during FY 14 and prayed for his grace and provision for FY 15. This year's celebration was observed worldwide with the theme "Restored Relationships" (Ephesians 4:32). World Vision Ghana (WVG) celebrated the Day in an extraordinary way with its Advisory Council members and children.

Staff and other participants also celebrated the Lord's Supper. The Senior Leadership Team and Advisory Council members were dedicated by Rev. Father Raymond Osei-Tutu.

The National Director, Mr Hubert Charles, stressed the need for World Vision staff to continue challenging the societal injustices which make children vulnerable to disease and abuse.



Some members of the Advisory Council participating in the DOP

Partners and representatives of Para-Church and Church organizations participated in the day's event. The partners represented included Ghana Fellowship of Evangelical Students (GHAFES), Bible Society of Ghana, Scripture Union, Symposium of Episcopal Conference of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM), Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF), Ghana Evangelism Committee (GEC) and Bible League.

The one-day programme in Accra took place at the Lighthouse Chapel International (Qodesh). About 250 people attended including 45 children. The main speaker, Prophet Kakra Baiden, a pastor of the Lighthouse Chapel, in his exhortation, advised staff not to hold grudge against each other or anyone so that they can be successful in what they do. He also entreated staff to build a formidable team spirit and foster good relationship with each other.

Rev. Erasmus Odonkor, a member of the Advisory Council, in his goodwill message, encouraged staff to dedicate themselves to hard work and diligence in order to fulfil the ministry they have been called into.



Mr. Charles delivering his goodwill message

"How well children are connected to their family, their community, their school and teachers, their peers, their health professionals and their faith leaders will determine their level of well-being and minimize their risk of vulnerability to disease and abuse", Mr. Charles said.

He emphasized that in aspiring to attain the well-being of children, members of staff need to forge and nurture healthy relationships with each other, partners and stakeholders in order to provide the gift of love, a sense of self-worth, self-awareness and identity that will enable children maintain their emotional, mental, spiritual and physical well-being.

“How well children are connected to their family, their community, their school and teachers, their peers, their health professionals and their faith leaders will determine their level of well-being and minimize their risk of vulnerability to disease and abuse”, he said.

Staff were divided into eleven (11) prayer groups. Each group had specific intercessory prayer topics. Various leaders were assigned to each group, after which staff pledged to make efforts to foster healthy relationships.



Group of staff in a time of prayer



Staff, Advisory Council members and children singing praises



Staff in a time of prayer and worship



UP-CLOSE WITH MR. EMMANUEL B. MAHAMA

Known to be the Vice Chair of the Advisory Council in World Vision Ghana, Mr. Emmanuel Baba Mahama, a Chartered Accountant and Insurer, has served as a member of WV Ghana Advisory Council since 2010. In an exclusive interview with Mr. Mahama, he shares with *Vision Times* some of his experience in WVG.

Read on...

Vision Times: Good afternoon sir and thanks for taking some time off your busy schedule to grant us this interview.

Mr. Mahama: Good afternoon, the pleasure is mine.

Vision Times: Sir, can you tell us your motivation for joining World Vision's Advisory Council (AC)?

Mr. Mahama: I had always known a bit about WV before I joined and had always wanted to be in a ministry. My interest was therefore in line with WV's which is life in all its fullness for every child and addressing the concerns of the poor and oppressed; I saw my membership of the Advisory Council as an opportunity to contribute my bit towards making this vision a reality.

Vision Times: We know you also serve as the Chair of two committees of the AC. The Governance, Nominating and People & Culture Committee (GNPC) and the Peer Review Taskforce Committee. How are you using your position to strengthen the governance function of the Advisory Council?

Mr. Mahama: As Chair of GNPC, I have been working with colleague members of the Committee to ensure that we have an adequate pool of the

'right people' on the AC (and on the Friends of World Vision Ghana, as 'members in waiting'); and that the AC is focused on improving its effectiveness by systematically addressing the critical success factors of board effectiveness. My position as Chair of the Peer Review Taskforce enables the AC to strongly contribute to, and have ownership of, the preparation for the Peer Review.

Vision Times: As Chair of the Peer Review Taskforce, how are you positioning the Advisory Council to successfully transition into a board?

Mr. Mahama: For an AC to successfully transition to an Intermediate Board, the National Boards Policy requires that the Review Committee established by the President of WVI take into account the results of any peer reviews that the Partnership has conducted with that National Office. The Peer Review Taskforce is therefore coordinating the efforts of the AC and staff to ensure that WVG is found to be aligned when the forthcoming peer review is undertaken. This is our immediate and foremost task in seeking to help the AC successfully transition to a Board. The rest of the migration issues are secondary and will be addressed by the AC in due course, I believe.

Vision Times: What are your expectations from staff to strengthen governance and to ensure that World Vision Ghana achieves its strategic priorities?

Mr. Mahama: In World Vision Ghana, we respect the division between Management and Governance. The AC which has responsibility for governance engages the staff from among the Senior Leadership Team as facilitators at its Committee meetings. This enables the AC to make use of the expertise of these staff to enhance governance.

Members of staff deal with implementation and to ensure vigorous implementation, the AC uses regular performance reviews that emphasize key performance indicators to ensure the National Director and his team work to meet WVG's objectives.

Vision Times: What are some of the challenges the Advisory Council is facing and how do you plan to address them?

Mr. Mahama: I wouldn't say challenges, maybe critical engagements. For instance, we are currently in the throes of positioning ourselves for a successful peer review which is a very demanding task. Generally, over the last few years, the AC has been working hard at improving itself. And I want to think the AC is succeeding, judging by the improving scores it has been registering in the annual board effectiveness evaluation.

Vision Times: How can Advisory Council members enhance their engagement to achieve the mission and vision of World Vision Ghana?

Mr. Mahama: Consistently taking part in board developments sessions which include annual field trips is critical here. Members' individual development efforts by way of a commitment to regular reading of essential WV material such as the National Boards Policy, the Corporate Governance Guidelines and the key governance policies and guidelines is also vital.



Mr. Mahama interacting with a staff of WVG

Vision Times: What mechanisms can be put in place to raise funds in Ghana in order to sustain the work we do?

Mr. Mahama: I can think of three things. First, a policy that ensures a minimum financial commitment by AC members to local fundraising. Secondly, training in networking and referrals generation for AC members and staff to rope in their contacts outside WVG, will be helpful. I will also go for the use of advertisements and other visibility programmes to bring the need into the public domain.

Vision Times: What, in your view, are some of the strengths/benefits of the field trips that the AC undertakes annually?

Mr. Mahama: The field visits expose us to the realities at the coalface. We get to meet with beneficiaries of our programmes and see first-hand the impact of our strategic interventions on their lives. And this actually enables the AC to gauge the effectiveness of these interventions and therefore help us to fine-tune our strategies for greater effectiveness, where necessary. For instance, our interactions and engagement with field staff who sometimes work under challenging conditions can be mutually motivating. I must say the trips also provide an opportunity for us to deepen our collaboration with some of our partners and further on offer a good orientation exposure for new Advisory Council members.

Vision Times: What do you love to do for leisure?

Mr. Mahama: Ooh I like reading a lot and then whenever there is a football match and I have the time I enjoy watching. I love to watch movies sometimes especially the romantic-comedy ones.

“ I see my membership of the Advisory Council as an opportunity to contribute my bit towards making this vision a reality. ”



Mr. Mahama in a handshake with Chiefs of Kintampo South during an AC trip

“All I think about is how to survive”

Hayford is 20 years and the third born of a family of seven (7). He dropped out of school when his parents died. Life was not the same for Hayford when his parents died. He had to face the challenges of life all by himself. Hayford recalled the fact that, he had to walk all day in search of food. According to him, surviving the day was his major priority. “When I wake up every day, all I think about is how to survive the day. Sometimes I have to walk over 5 kilometers to visit my friends so that I can get something to eat”.

Prince, also a 19 year old boy and a graduate from Senkyi Junior High School (JHS) could not continue his senior high school due to financial constraints.

According to him, his parents could not afford to send him to secondary school because they were poor.

Prince is the ninth born of a family of 11 children. Farming was the main occupation of his parents and Prince had to help his parents on the farm. According to him, his dream of becoming a successful businessman in the future seemed to be shattered.

However, the lives of Hayford and Prince turned around when both boys heard and responded to an announcement through a public address system by the local assembly inviting orphans and vulnerable children for skill training in bamboo crafting. This training was part of the interventions being spearheaded by the Strengthening Community Care and Support for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (SCASO) project for the Asuogyaman District in the Eastern Region of Ghana

Brian Tsikpor, Coordinator for the project in the District, recollected that most of the Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) identified at the beginning of the project were all school dropouts. And the objective of the project was to train them



Hayford (left) and Prince (right) displaying some of the products made from Bamboo

on livelihood skills. He also recalled 40 OVC were given three months intensive training in Bamboo crafting.

Sharing their success story, Hayford and Prince said they were very delighted to have received such training. “I want to share the knowledge acquired here with the other kids in the street who think they have no future. I can confidently say that, my future is now secured. I'm very happy and I want to thank WorldVision and USAID for bringing this project to our district”, Hayford said.

Prince also added that the project had given him hope and built his self-confidence. “My dream of becoming a successful businessman is still alive. I want to produce these bamboo bags in large quantities to meet the market demands and have my own factory in future”.

The SCASO project has been contributing to the goal of the National Strategic Plan for Orphans and

Vulnerable Children (OVC) by ensuring that 'vulnerable children are supported to continue to live with their families within their communities'. This is being achieved through social protection interventions by the project to improve the health, education, early childhood development as well as building the capacity of the country and other stakeholders at the local levels to promote the rights and well-being of OVC. SCASO further contributes to this goal through capacity strengthening of caregivers of OVC, improvement in advocacy, provision of psychosocial support to OVC and strengthening the monitoring and evaluation of OVC activities at the district and community level.



“IMPROVED SANITATION NOW CAMPAIGN” Launched

World Vision Ghana in collaboration with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development held a 35th Anniversary Public Lecture on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at the British Council Auditorium, Accra.

The theme was “Addressing the Sanitation Challenge in Ghana: Defining the Future”, the public lecture was held to highlight the urgency of addressing sanitation challenges in Ghana and Africa as a whole.

It was also a platform for Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) to officially launch the **“Improved Sanitation Now Campaign.”**

The event attracted approximately 250 participants and high profile dignitaries including members of the Advisory Council, The Okyehene, His Royal Majesty Osagyefo Amoatia Ofori Panin, Hon. Julius Debrah, the Minister for Local Government and Rural Development, the Vice Chancellor of The University of Energy and Natural Resources,



Cross-section of WVG staff and invited guest

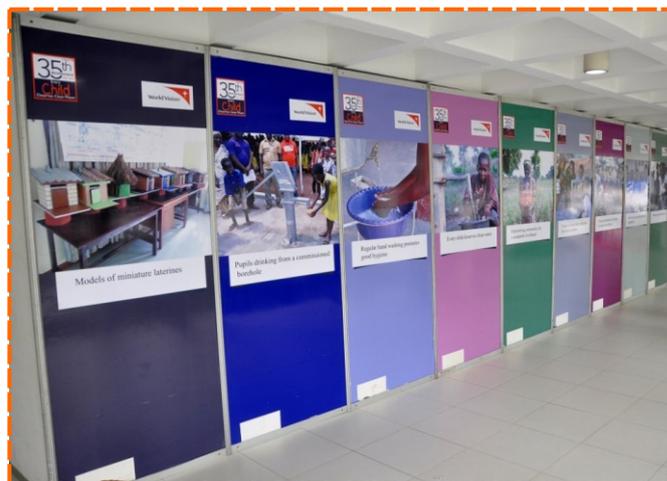
Professor(Mrs) Esi Awuah, and government representatives.

The National Director, Hubert Charles in his welcome statement spoke on the goal of the campaign and stressed the desire of WV to work with the Government, particularly the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development and allied agencies to improve the sanitation situation in Ghana. He emphasized the need for all (government and WASH organizations) involved to prioritize sanitation and build strong partnership to tackle the sanitation crisis.

In his remarks, Chairman of the programme, HRM Osagyefo Amoatia Ofori Panin advocated for the decentralisation of sanitation management to communities to ensure proper sanitation for socio-economic development. He said “communities must have ownership. If you own it, you protect it. If you own it, you take care of it. Giving communities ownership and responsibility to address their own sanitation could be a good way to combat poor sanitation because when people feel a sense of ownership over something, they take care of it, protect it and are more accountable.”

Hon. Julius Debrah, Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, mentioned that no country could thrive without overcoming its sanitation problems.

He professed his support for a nationalistic approach in dealing with the sanitation problem Ghana is experiencing.



A photo exhibition stand at the Public lecture

Hon. Debrah pledged his Ministry’s willingness to work with World Vision and like-minded institutions in a concerted manner to address the sanitation challenges.

Mr. Attah Arhin, WASH Manager stated the objectives of the campaign as follows; increase WVG's contribution to WASH interventions, provide stakeholders with solutions on how to address the sanitation situation in the country through the campaign outcomes, get support from policy and decision makers in the implementation of the campaign, mobilize civil societies and other coalitions as allies to influence decision making processes. Others are, increase prioritization and investment for sanitation and hygiene, increase community capacity to manage sanitation and increased advocacy, research and policy dialogue, Mr. Arhin, entreated all stake holders to come on board and pledge their commitment to making the country free from filth.



Some members of WVG - Advisory Council in a pose with the Okyehene, HRM Osagyefo Amoatia Ofori Panin

Profile of Mrs. Efua Gharthey



Mrs. Efua Gharthey is a trained lawyer and a committed Christian. She joined the Advisory Council in December 2012. She graduated with a law degree from the University of Ghana in 1989 and was called to the Bar in 1991. After a year as a Legal Aid Officer, defending the rights of the underprivileged, she joined Akufo-Addo, Prempeh & Co. as an Associate.

In 1994, she co-founded Gharthey & Gharthey as Managing Partner and Head of the Corporate Section of the Firm. Efua Gharthey is a member of the International Federation of Female Lawyers (FIDA) and held executive positions in FIDA (Ghana) from 1992 to 1997. She has been actively involved in FIDA's mediation, conciliation and settlement procedures for a number of years. Since 1992, she has served as a Chairperson, Secretary / Member of a number of committees of the Ghana Bar Association and was a member of the National Executive of the Ghana Bar Association for nine years. Efua Gharthey has served, and still serves on a number of Boards of organizations involved in various activities some of which are centered on children, education, aviation, export financing, media and publishing.

Currently, she is the Vice-Chairperson of the Global Board of the United Bible Societies Worldwide, Chairperson of the Bible Society of Ghana and a member of its Business Committee. She worships at the Mt. Zion Methodist Church, Sakumono.



Mrs. Efua Gharthey holding a baby in one of the community during an Advisory Council trip

Apart from making herself available to her groups and the Women and Girls fellowship in church to discuss various legal topics, she is a member of the Methodist Church of Ghana Legal Team and Secretary of the Lawyers Christian Fellowship in Ghana.

Mrs. Gharthey, a member of the '83 Year Group of Wesley Girls' High School, is a lover of inspired Christian music, a mother of five and married to Hon. Joe Gharthey, Member of Parliament for Essikado-Ketan in the Western Region and also the 2nd Deputy Speaker of Parliament.



Mrs. Gharthey dancing with women of Bongo-Soe in the Bolga base

“FMNR Sustains Our Livestock”

Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) is allowing natural regrowth of vegetation which enables the sprouting up of lost farm resources such as wild fruits, medicinal plants to regrow with farmers being in control

Ba-an Kolog, a farmer and native of Yagzore in the Talensi District said he started practicing Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) three years ago. And the benefits he confessed are countless. “Through this initiative I am able to trap termites to feed my fowls, and my animals are able to graze on my farm. This practice sustains our animals” he said.



Ba-an Kolog on his farm

According to Kolog, WV came to support farmers in Yagzore by sensitizing them to desist from cutting down all the shrubs on their farms but instead prune them in order to protect the environment and preserve the land as well. Kolog said community members now prune branches to roof their thatched houses whereas leaves that fall decompose and served as manure.

Kolog recalled how prior to the introduction of the FMNR, women had to walk long distances in search of firewood for cooking.



Kolog inspecting the termite trap on his farm

“These days my wife and children don't have to go far in search of firewood”. Continuing, he mentioned how difficult it was to find a spot for their goats and cattle to graze which has become a thing of the past.

'Tituu Legbe' literally meaning shrubs becoming trees as community members call the FMNR initiative had evidently registered countless benefits to farmers in Yagzore. Kolog added that the project enabled community members to meet on a regular basis to deliberate on how to protect and sustain their farm lands thereby fostering unity among them. For him, his family could also get fruits like shea, red and yellow berries which they sell on the market to make money.

He also admitted receiving some acacia and ebony seedlings from WV which he has nurtured and now serves as nutrients for his family. Continuing, Kolog said practicing the FMNR on his farm had made it possible for the germination of medicinal plants as well.



Some of the acacia seedlings fenced

**“These days my wife
and children don't
have to go
far in search of
firewood”**



A CHAT WITH MR. JAMES KWAME OTIEKU

Mr. James Kwame Otiaku a full-time Senior Lecturer in the Department of Accounting, University of Ghana Business School joined the Advisory Council as a member in December 2010. He invited Vision Times to his office for a chat.

Vision Times: Good morning Mr. Otiaku and Happy New year.

Mr. Otiaku: Good morning and many happy returns. We thank God for a restful Christmas break.

Vision Times: Exactly, and we're also grateful to God for bringing us back from the Christmas break more refreshed. I must confess we appreciate you inviting us to your office for this interview.

Mr. Otiaku: You're most welcome.

Vision Times: Please tell us why you decided to join the Advisory Council knowing it is voluntary?

Mr. Otiaku: I was approached early 2010 by Dr. Kastner but was not too keen on joining so I jokingly said I will seek permission from my wife who at that time felt I had too much on my plate. I later prayed about it and joined because I saw it as God's ministry.

Vision Times: As a member, what has been your greatest achievement?

Mr. Otiaku: Apart from my professional contributions, any time I go to the field and see the children in the community so happy about the intervention we have made I get so fulfilled. Seeing the pictures of girls and boys smiling happily in our newsletters and other reports is something I can't place money on because it's worth celebrating to bring hope to others just as Christ's ministry.

Vision Times: I know you are also a member of the Audit and Risk committee, what does this committee do?

Mr. Otiaku: The Audit and Risk committee oversee the implementation of corporate policy, and ensure these policies are consistent with management. I would say we are the eye of management. I am saying

this because the work we do depends on donations so we have to make sure every single pesewa is accounted for to be able to tell the donors we use the resources judiciously.

Vision Times: As we look into the future, what are the priorities of the Advisory Council?

Mr. Otiaku: My dream is for us to be able to start raising local funds for ourselves to supplement donor funds and perhaps be a support office one day. And to make this possible, the Advisory Council has a committee of which I am a member working earnestly to achieve this goal. However, although it is taking a while for us to transit to a board, member's commitment and dedication is commendable.

Vision Time: Now moving away from work, can you tell us a bit about your family?

Mr. Otiaku: Well I have been married for 28 years, with three kids comprising two girls and a boy. And I believe this marriage has been successful because good things take time to build.

Vision Times: Congratulations. Looking at your busy schedule, how are you able to balance both work and family.

Mr. Otiaku: You see it takes time to build a successful relationship and you can only achieve that when you build with Christ as the foundation. Also, integrity is key in all aspects of relationship and that is my secret.

Vision Times: That's very true and I can even tell from the scripture quotes on your notice board.

Mr. Otiaku: You know I accepted Christ just at the moment I completed College and so I was fortunate not to fall into the pleasures of the world.

Vision Times: Sir, how active are you in Church?

Mr. Otiaku: Oh yes, I am a member of Assemblies of God and has been a Deacon since 1997 and also a member of the Board of Governors for Southern Ghana Bible College, Saltpond.

Vision Times: Anything you love doing when not working?

Mr. Otiaku: I like to read a lot for leisure and also love watching football. In fact I am a Manchester United fan. And then also farm for the fun of it.

Vision Times: We are in a new year, what are your expectations of staff?

Mr. Otiaku: I expect staff to see this work as a ministry although they are pursuing a career. And I believe they would value and get some kind of inner joy executing their respective roles. If we all take this posture and give out our best we would be blessed in everything we do.

WORLD VISION DONATES GIFT-IN-KIND ITEMS TO 8 DISTRICTS



Mrs. Gladys Tetteh-Yeboah handing over the medical items to executives of Eastern Region Directorate

World Vision Ghana (WVG), as part of Strengthening Community Care and Support for Orphans and Vulnerable Children project (SCASO), donated medical supplies worth almost GH¢20,000.00 to eight districts in the Eastern Region on January 8, 2015.

The donation of the medical supplies formed part of World Vision's contributions towards sustaining efforts to protect and promote the health of women and children in the districts; Ayensuano/Suhum, Kwahu West, Fanteakwa, New Juaben, Manya Krobo, Yilo Krobo, Upper Manya Krobo and Asuogyaman. The donation was also to enable health providers ensure efficient and effective universal health coverage.

World Vision Ghana over the past two years through the SCASO project with the support of USAID has increasingly ensured the protection of children orphaned by, or affected with HIV and AIDS in the eight districts to ensure the survival of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC).

Mrs. Gladys Tetteh-Yeboah, Project Manager, SCASO who made the presentation on behalf of WVG pleaded with all Regional and District Directors of Health to assist World Vision to execute its mission and strategic objective in promoting and enhancing the well-being of children.

“We hope this partnership will promote the well-being of children and mothers in the country”, she said.

Aside donating medical supplies, World Vision, over the years, has trained 391 teachers and home visitors, provided scholarships to 153 Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) in Senior High Schools, trained and mobilized 597 youth Peer Educators.

On receiving the items made up of anesthetic instruments and appliances, surgical instruments, orthopedic appliances, sterilizers and many others. The Acting Regional Director of Health Service-Eastern Region, Dr. Wilfred Larbi Addo commended World Vision Ghana for their support over the years and promised efficient use of the items.



Some of the medical items donated

Advisory Council Participates in Staff Joint Devotion

Members of WorldVision Ghana Advisory Council has since FY-15 been joining staff for their joint devotion at the end of every month. This is meant to deepen AC members's involvement in WVG programmes. During the joint devotion of every last Friday of the month, AC members take the platform to lead exhortation to encourage staff with the word of God.

Dr. (Mrs.) Adelaide Kastner, the Chair of the Advisory Council who started it all in October 2014, urged staff to do all things with compassion and a sense of togetherness. "God is using us through WorldVision as love advocates for the downtrodden especially children and that is the purpose of the existence of World Vision" She noted.

Hitherto, Departments hosted and led joint devotion every Friday. With current development, where AC members lead joint devotion every last Friday of the month, Vision Times sampled the views of some members of staff on the maiden AC member led joint devotion.

According to Francis Ainoo, Information Management Officer, he was inspired by the words of the AC Chair. "The touch of finesse displayed in her delivery was worth noting. She indeed presented herself as a mother who cared a lot about the welfare of her children. I was encouraged by her exhortation on "love", to renew my commitment to love my friends, work mates and



Dr. (Mrs.) Kastner leading the devotion

family members unconditionally and to be absolutely interested in their needs". Adding, Francis said, "I also realized that no matter how one offended me, the least I could do for the fellow was to forgive him or her and move on with life. Harboring resentments and anger, I learnt, was a very bad habit. Altogether, I felt inspired by the Holy Spirit to make love direct all my actions and inactions in life".

Nathaniel Abadji, a National Service Intern also said it was laudable inviting the Advisory Council to participate in joint devotion. "We the younger ones would be inspired a lot from their exhortations. I think it is also a big opportunity for us to learn from them as they sometimes share their experiences with us," he added.



Cross section of staff at the joint devotion

FEBRUARY'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| DATE | ACTIVITY |
|-----------------------|---|
| JANUARY 2015 | |
| 26 - 30 JANUARY 2015 | Single step Refresher Training (including Quickstep) |
| 30 JANUARY 2015 | Joint Devotion (Mrs. Florence Hutchful, Advisory Council Member) |
| FEBRUARY 2015 | |
| 9 - 13 FEBRUARY 2015 | Global Center Peer Review |
| 16 FEBRUARY 2015 | Advisory Council Risk & Audit Committee meeting |
| 17 FEBRUARY 2015 | Advisory Council Governacne, Nominating, and People and Culture committee |
| 18 FEBRUARY 2015 | Advisory Council Fundraising Committee |
| 19 FEBRUARY 2015 | Advisory Council Ministry Committee meeting |
| 23 - 25 FEBRUARY 2015 | DM&E Capacity Building / F@F PST Ghana and ICD Workshop |
| 23 - 27 FEBRUARY 2015 | Advisory Council / VisionFund Joint Field trip |
| 27 FEBRUARY 2015 | Joint Devotion (Advisory Council Member, Prof. Samuel Afrane) |

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