

# GOVERNANCE AND PEACE POLL IN GHANA

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The Inter-Ministerial Coordinating Committee on Decentralization (IMCC), the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), the National Peace Council (NPC) and the United Nations Development Programs (UNDP).

2014 SURVEY REPORT  
(FIRST SURVEY, JULY 2014)

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

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### DISCLAIMER

The interpretation and views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the implementing partners.



## Introduction

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP-Ghana office) works in three main areas in Ghana: poverty reduction and achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); environment and sustainable development, and; democratic governance, including conflict prevention. The UNDP's efforts to promote democratic governance and sustainable peace have been affected by limited capacity in the area of measuring progress through SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and timely) indicators. As part of mechanism to improve evidence based policy intervention and the management of key inter-agency results in the core areas of its activities, specifically in the three work plan under the democratic governance and conflict prevention work area (Representation and Participation, Transparency and Accountability, and Peace), the UNDP-Ghana office initiated the Governance and Peace (GaP) Poll.

The first of its kind, the Governance and Peace (GaP) Poll project is a nationwide, nationally representative public opinion tracking survey that seeks to support the management of results relating to UN and UNDP-Ghana targets relating to issues of governance and peace. The GaP Poll survey is scheduled to run three (3) times in a year, beginning in 2014

## Project Objectives

- To deliver new data on specific issues, such as the level of public awareness of and confidence in the National Peace Council, and the extent of willingness of women to run for political office.
- To track progress between major surveys such as the Afrobarometer survey.
- To provide timely data that will contribute to policy debate, interventions and advocacy initiatives.

## Project Partners

The GaP poll survey project is a multi-stakeholder project involving the UNDP and its implementing Partners (IPs):

- the Inter-Ministerial Coordinating Committee on Decentralization (IMCC);
- the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ);
- the National Peace Council (NPC); and
- the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), which plays a vital technical role.

The Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana) was commissioned by UNDP and its IPs to implement (Survey administrator) this GAP Poll.



## Methodology

To achieve the objectives of the project:

- A multi-stage stratified sampling methodology based on Probability Proportionate to Population Size (PPPS) complemented with an area sampling approach was used because of some limitations in the 2010 population census data<sup>1</sup>;
- Purposive, stratified and random sampling techniques were used in selecting 40 out of the 216 local government areas;
- The 5 metropolitan areas that are also regional capitals were automatically included in the survey because of their cosmopolitan outlook;
- A stratified sampling procedure was used to select and distribute 30 districts across the 10 regions;
- Simple random sampling approach was used to select specific Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) for each region according to its allocation;
- Similarly, in each selected MMDAs, 4 localities were randomly selected as survey centers;
- A listing exercise was carried and it yielded a total of 1399 potential respondents;
- Of this number, 1,273 were selected based on positive responses they offered to the key and lesser criteria including professed interest in public affairs and willingness to offer views on some selected institutions;
- In all, 1,008 individuals out of the 1,273 potential respondents met both key and lesser criteria listed above; and
- The remaining 265 potential respondents that met some, but not all key and lesser criteria, were kept as substitute respondents in case interviewers encountered difficulties getting access to any of the potential respondents in the primary sample.

## The Administration of Respondents Interview

- A major part of the logistical arrangement for the actual administration of the GaP Poll interviews involved the setting-up of a call-center and data capture station;
- Two call centers and data capture stations were furnished with a total of Fourteen (14) computers and mobile phones for administering the survey and capturing the data;
- In preparation to conduct the telephone interviews, CDD-Ghana recruited and trained fourteen (14) data receiving /interviewing clerks on 6th June, 2014;

<sup>1</sup> The census data has information on the adult population for each of the ten administrative regions. Those for the districts are in reference to the old 170 districts. There is no information yet on the population re-alignment with the creation of new districts in 2012, which resulted in the current total of 216 districts hence it was difficult to apply PPPS at the district level.



- The data-receiving clerks also undertook a pilot telephone interview simulation exercise to get a feel of how the task at hand and acquaint themselves with the process by testing their newly acquired knowledge;
- After the successful training a total of 1008 respondents were targeted to be interviewed;
- The targeted respondents were selected based on positive responses they offered to the key and lesser criteria below, including:

### Key criteria

1. Willing to offer us views on the following:
  - a. The Electoral Commission
  - b. The Judiciary
  - c. Corruption
  - d. Peace and Security
  - e. Women and Political Participation
  - f. Local Government and District Assembly
2. Access to personal phone

### Lesser Criteria

1. Professed interest in public affairs, human rights and peace and stability in Ghana
  2. Occasional discourse on the above issues with friends or family members
- The telephone interviews lasted a week, from June 7 – 14, 2014. The number of successful calls with respondents stood at 938 at the end of the exercise;
  - At the end of the interviews, the data was cleaned to minimize non sampling errors at various stages of the data merging process including collating, editing, coding, and response entry errors;
  - The drop in the number of respondents did not have remarkable impact on the level of precision (i.e. the error margin) of findings and conclusions drawn from the data;
  - While the targeted sample size of 1,008 would have yielded a margin of error of  $\pm 3.1\%$  (approximately  $\pm 3\%$ ) at the 95% confidence level test, what was actually attained (i.e. sample size of 938) had a margin of error of  $\pm 3.2\%$  (approximately  $\pm 3\%$ ) at the same confidence level.

## Summary of Findings

### Level of Trust in Public Institutions



- Overall majority of the respondents somewhat or a lot trust the Electoral Commission (57%), National Peace Council (64%), Law Courts (53%) and CHRAJ (60%) to deliver on their mandate;
- Similarly significant minorities also did not at all or a little trust the Electoral Commission (41%) and the Law Courts (42%) to deliver on their mandate;
- Majority (53%) of the respondents reported they did not at all or a little trust District Assemblies to deliver on their mandate;
- Trust for the EC was particularly low in the Eastern (44%) and Western (49%) regions; while trust for the law Courts and District Assemblies were low in the Upper East (56%) and Upper West (49%) and Western (58%), Central (58%), Greater Accra (58%) and Upper West (58%) regions respectively; and
- In terms of gender, the survey results revealed that females generally trust the EC and District Assemblies while males trust the National Peace Council, CHRAJ and Law Courts.

### **Assessment of the Performance of MMDAs**

- The expressed mistrust for MMDAs was demonstrated in terms of respondents' rating of the performance of MMDAs on some of their core functions;
- Majority of the respondents indicated that MMDAs had performed very or fairly badly in maintaining local roads (64%). Assessment of MMDAs on this function was particularly negative in the Ashanti region (69%);
- More than 5 in 10 (55%) respondents said that MMDAs have performed very or fairly badly in maintaining local markets. This assessment was particularly negative in the Central (64%), Upper West (58%), Greater Accra (57%) and Ashanti (57%) regions;
- In contrast, Majority (61%) of respondents surveyed said MMDAs were doing very or fairly well in maintaining health standards in local restaurants and food stalls;
- A significant minority (41%) said MMDAs are doing “very badly” or “fairly badly” in keeping their communities' clean. Positive assessment of MMDAs was particularly higher in the Northern (65%) and Upper East (65%) regions and lower in the Greater Accra (49%);
- A significant minority of more than a third (35%) said the MMDAs are doing very or fairly badly in maintaining public land. assessment of MMDAs in maintaining public lands was particularly low in Greater Accra where only 28% of respondents said MMDAs are doing very well or fairly well in maintaining public lands;
- A gender disaggregation of the data shows high consistency with the general and regional assessment of the performance of MMDAs;

### **Contact with Duty Bearers**

- Contact with duty bearers is extremely low;



- Majority of the respondents reported they had not contacted a Member of Parliament (84%), district assembly official (79%), Unit Committee member (75%) and Assembly representative (68%) to share their views on pertinent issues;
- Contact with District Officials was extremely poor in the Eastern Region (9%) while that of Assembly members was poor in the Western (23%) and Greater Accra (20%);
- Similarly contact with Unit Committees was low in the Eastern (10%), Volta (16%) and Greater Accra (17%) regions while contact with MPs was low in Western (8%), Greater Accra (8%) and Eastern (8%) regions; and
- In terms of gender the findings reveal that both genders hardly make contacts with duty bearers.

### **Organizing Meetings at the Local level by MMDAs/Public Officials**

- Duty bearers rarely organize meetings with citizens;
- Majority of respondents revealed that MMDAs (46%), Assembly representatives (43%), Unit Committee Members (48%) and MPs (55%) never organize any meetings with them;
- MMDA organized meetings with citizens rarely occur in Northern (53%) and Upper East (53%) regions;
- Similarly 51% and 47% of respondents in Brong Ahafo and Greater Accra regions respectively reported Assembly representatives never organized meetings with citizens;
- Again 57% of respondents in the Brong Ahafo region said Unit Committees never organized meetings with citizens
- Member of Parliament organized meeting with citizens hardly occur in the Greater Accra (64%), Brong Ahafo (61%) and Upper East (61%) Regions

### **Attendance of Meetings Organized by MMDAs and other duty bearers**

- About 68% of respondents have never attended any meetings held by the MMDAs. Attendance was particularly low in the Northern, Brong Ahafo and Eastern regions;
- About 57% of respondents said they never attended any public meetings organized by their Assembly Representative with the Ashanti and Brong Ahafo recording the highest non-attendance;
- Majority (70%) of the respondents reported they had never attended any public meetings organized by Unit committee Members. Attendance at such meetings was particularly low in the Eastern and Upper East regions where 79% and 76% of the respondents had never attended such a meeting;



- The survey revealed that a staggering majority (72%) of respondents had never attended any meeting organized by their MP;
- Of the majority, the Greater Accra region recorded the greatest percentage of non-attendance (84%), followed by the Eastern and Brong Ahafo regions with 82% and 81% respectively; and
- The survey also revealed that both sexes to a large extent hardly attend any meeting organized by duty bearers however where possible, males are most likely to attend

### **Trust in the prosecutorial powers of the state**

- In spite of the expressed trust in the law courts, trust among respondents in the ability of the state to prosecute cases in the law courts was mixed;
- While 47% of the respondents reported that they trust the state to prosecute cases in the law courts, a significant minority (45%) did not trust the state at all or trusted them a little to prosecute cases;
- Trust in the state to prosecute cases was particularly higher in Greater Accra (54%) and Volta region (52%) and low in the Ashanti (41%) and Upper East (41%) regions; and
- The survey revealed that males trust the state to prosecute cases more than females.

### **Willingness of Women to Accept Leadership Position**

- Majority (72%) of the women interviewed asserted that they would be willing to accept a leadership role in a civil society organisation with women in Northern (88%), Ashanti (74%) and Brong Ahafo (77%) leading the pack;
- An encouraging (54%) of women respondents interviewed were willing to accept a leadership role in a political party if offered them;
- While an overwhelming majority of women in Upper West (85%) region were more willing to accept a leadership role only 47% of women in the Eastern region were the least willing to accept a leadership role in a political party;
- A significant majority (73%) of the women interviewed were also willing to accept a leadership role in a private sector organization if offered them with the percentage particularly high in the Northern region (91%); and
- A significant majority (70%) of women respondents interviewed reported that they willing to accept leadership role in a Public Sector organisation.

### **Contacts with Selected Service Provider Institutions**

- An overwhelming majority (82%) of the respondents interviewed reported they had not contacted a CSO/ NGO in the past 12 months;
- An overwhelming majority (82%) of the respondents interviewed said that they have not contacted the Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA) in the past 12 months;
- A significant majority (87%) of respondents interviewed mentioned that they had no contact with the Judiciary;



- More than half (55%) of respondents interviewed said they had contact with service providers in the social sector (education and health);
- A little above 80% of the respondents interviewed, on average, indicated that they had no contact with any department of the Executive arm of government;
- Slightly over half (54%) of the respondents interviewed said they had no contact with any utility service provider in the past 12 months;
- A significant majority (82%) of respondents interviewed said they had had no contact with the private sector;
- An overwhelming majority (90%) of respondents interviewed said, they had no contact with the Ghana Immigration Service in the past 12 months;
- Similarly, a significant majority (84%) of respondents interviewed said they had no contact with the media in the past 12 months;
- An overwhelming majority (90%) of respondents interviewed said they had no contact with the Ghana Audit Service in the past 12 month;
- Majority (67%) of respondents interviewed said they had no contact with the Ghana Police Service in the past 12 months; and
- A large majority (89%) of respondents interviewed as shown in figure 41 said they had no contact with the CEPS in the past 12 month.

### **Payment of Bribe**

- A significant majority (80%) of respondents who reported having contacted a service provider in the past said they did not pay bribe in the past 12 months; and
- The data showed that significant minorities of males (between 17% and 38%) and females (between 19% and 32%) paid bribes when they contacted service providers over the past 12 months.

### **Knowledge of the Legal Aid Scheme**

- A significant majority (76%) of respondents interviewed said they had no knowledge of the operations of the Legal Aid Scheme in Ghana;
- Only 24% are aware of the Legal Aid Scheme; and
- Respondents who said they had no knowledge of the operation of the legal aid scheme were higher than the national average in 3 out of 10 regions (Ashanti 82%; Northern 80% with Upper west recording 100%).

### **Conclusion**

As earlier indicated, the primary motivation of the GaP Poll is to track results relating to UN and UNDP targets as regards issues of governance and peace. These results are established in the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) as captured in the UNDP work plans on ‘Representation and Participation’; ‘Transparency and Accountability’; and ‘Peace’.





The data and findings generated from this poll are meant to support the tracking of progress being made in the area of governance and peace. UNDP and its implementing partners, where necessary, will use these findings to assist in the design of interventions necessary to address governance and peace challenges in Ghana. The data and findings are also made available to the public and other stakeholders in the field of governance and peace to support their work.

This is the first of three surveys for the 2014. The second GaP Poll will be conducted in August/September and findings shared with the public in October. For the full report on the first survey, please visit any of the following URL:

[www.cddgh.org](http://www.cddgh.org)

<http://www.mint.gov.gh/Peace%20Council.htm>

<http://www.chrajghana.com/>

[http://www.gh.undp.org/content/ghana/en/home/library/democratic\\_governance/governance-and-peace-poll-report--july-2014.html](http://www.gh.undp.org/content/ghana/en/home/library/democratic_governance/governance-and-peace-poll-report--july-2014.html)

