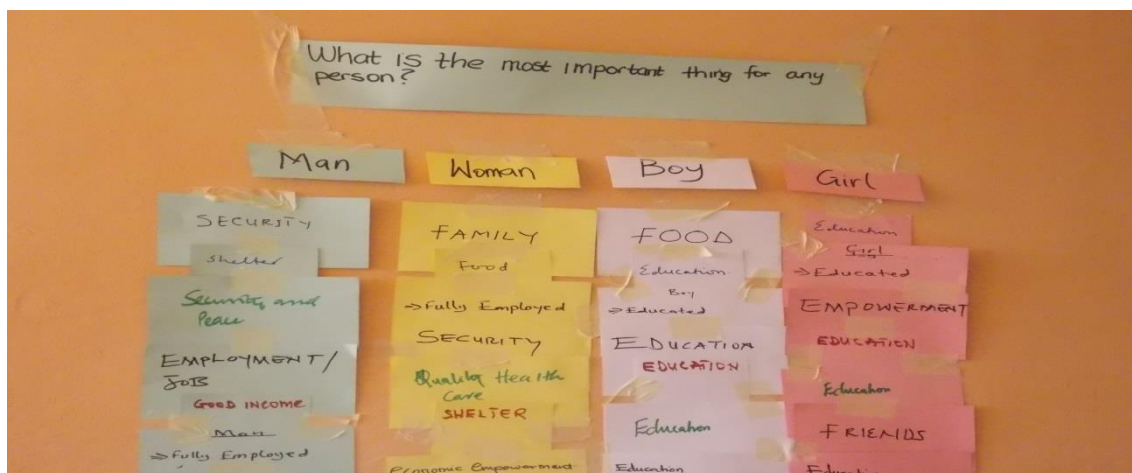


GHANA
POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA
NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS REPORT
(COMPOSITE REPORT)



**UN COUNTRY TEAM and NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING
COMMISSION (NDPC)
ACCRA
3 MAY 2013**



Some views during the consultations for the three Northern Regions”



“Consultations in Tamale for the three Northern Regions”



“The Chief and respondents from Manchie take a group picture after the Pilot Focus Group Discussions

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

This Composite Report of the Ghana Consultations on Post 2015 Development Agenda Consultations complements the summary findings in Template 5.1 and the accompanying 4 pager. The guidelines for the national consultations required that a template¹ is completed and submitted together with documentations - audio and video recordings and still pictures - as may be available. Unlike the summary, the report is more detailed and provides further explanations of the various stages of the consultation process.

In the report, each chapter represents a stage of the consultation process. This chapter (one) introduces the report and its relationship with the Template 5.1 and the 4 pager. Chapter Two gives the background of the Post 2015 Consultation. It starts with the Millennium Development Goals; how they came about and why the Post 2015 consultations. The objectives of the country consultation were then highlighted. The institutional arrangements spelt out the UN and NDPC administrative process to write the report. Next is the stakeholder consultation arrangement, which targets the marginalized in the three Northern Regions of Ghana. The final section of Chapter Two gives the resources mobilized for the entire consultation process. In this section, it was made clear that \$64,000 was provided by UNDG and additional resources were provided by RC's Office and UNDP. Other contributions by the various agencies were also acknowledged.

Chapter Three is devoted to the consultation process, which includes the stakeholders engaged and promotional activities undertaken. It also looks at the national launch in Tamale, post launch consultations with the marginalized communities in northern Ghana, focus group discussions in 15 communities in the 10 regions of Ghana, consultations with professional groups and e-consultations. The chapter ends with a brief summary of the validation exercise. The rest of the chapters are as follows:

Chapter 4: Post Launch Consultations with marginalized communities in Northern Ghana

Chapter 5: Pre-test for community focus Group discussions

Chapter 6: Community Focus Group discussions

Chapter 7: Consultation with Professional Groups

Chapter 8: E-Consultations

Chapter: 9: Validation of the findings of all the consultations

¹ See template in Annex 10.1

Chapter 10: Summary of consultation findings

Individual reports were prepared for each consultation activities reports and the summary of the combined findings are presented as Chapter 10. For ease of referencing, each chapter has its own Annexes.

CHAPTER TWO: BACKGROUND

2.0 THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs) AND POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

At the Millennium Summit held in September 2000, 189 countries adopted the Millennium Declaration. It contains the global shared values which are considered to be essential to international relations in the twenty-first century. These include freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for nature, and shared responsibility. Special significance were assigned to: (i) Peace, security and disarmament; (ii) Development and poverty eradication; (iii) Protection of our environment; (iv) Human rights, democracy and good governance; Protecting the vulnerable; (v) Meeting the special needs of Africa; and Strengthening the United Nations.

On development and poverty eradication, it has been declared: *“We will spare no efforts to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected. We are committed to making the right to development a reality for everyone and to freeing the entire human race from want”*.²³

The MDGs were established to operationalize the shared values indicated in the Millennium Declaration. There are eight goals derived from the Millennium Declaration and associated targets and indicators. All the member states of the United Nations and 23 international organizations have agreed to achieve these goals by 2015.

2.1 TOWARDS A POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

Barely three (3) years left to the 2015 deadline for MDGs, it was deemed necessary to begin discussions on a successor development framework. It is in this context that the UN selected Ghana as one of the countries to undertake in-country consultations that focuses on a post 2015 global development agenda captioned *“the world we want”*. A national report on this theme is to be generated through a series of activities to facilitate data gathering.

Ghana is one of the first 50 countries in the world chosen by the United Nations (UN) to conduct national consultations. The UN system in Ghana and the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) are the collaborating agencies conducting the national consultations.

² Millennium Declaration

The Ghana consultation was launched in Tamale on the 27 November 2012. It was followed by a two-day stakeholder consultation was organized to solicit views of the poor and marginalized in the three Northern Regions of Ghana. In February 2013, Focus Group Discussions were conducted in 15 deprived and marginalized communities across the country. Alongside these were vigorous media and online activities such as Television and Radio programs, Facebook and sending of mobile text codes, all aimed at creating the necessary awareness and also soliciting contributions from members of the society. A one-day workshop was also held for different categories of professional groups.

2.2 SYNERGIES

Other consultations taking place alongside the national consultations include the UN Development Group's supported national and global thematic consultations on the post-2015 agenda, namely:

- Conflict and Fragility
- Education
- Environmental Sustainability
- Governance
- Growth and Employment
- Health
- Hunger, food and nutrition security
- Inequalities
- Population Dynamics
- Energy
- Water

With the support of the governments of Denmark and Ghana, UN Women and UNICEF, Ghana was selected as one of the countries for consultations on inequalities. A global leadership meeting was held from 18-19 February 2013 in Copenhagen, Denmark, to conclude the consultation process on this theme.

In addition, the first Africa regional consultation to build consensus on Africa's common position on the post-2015 development agenda also took place in Accra. Furthermore, Ghana also concluded the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) beyond 2014 review with UNFPA. The findings of all these consultations have informed the Ghana post 2015 development agenda consultations report.

2.3 OBJECTIVE OF THE COUNTRY CONSULTATIONS

The country consultations are one of the opportunities provided by the UN to ensure open and inclusive dialogue that captures the views of the poor and vulnerable, and promoting global ownership of a “beyond 2015” development framework. This is a way of addressing one of the shortcomings of the MDGs i.e. lack of open consultation at all levels of society, allowing individuals to express their viewpoints. The UN system therefore encouraged discussions on the Post-2015 development agenda in a more open and inclusive manner, engaging people from all parts of the country.

The consultations have therefore been designed to broaden the analytical base for global goals and to provide avenues for the voices of the citizens, with particular focus on the poor and marginalized.

The principal objective of the consultations was to stimulate an all-inclusive debate on the post-2015 development agenda by providing an analytical base, inputs and ideas that build a shared global vision on '*The World We Want*'.

Besides, it is to amplify the voices of the poor and marginalized in formal negotiation processes and also influences the intergovernmental processes on the post 2015 development agenda so that the shared global vision is aligned with the aspirations of civil society. The report of the national consultations would feed into a UN High Level Panel report that will be the basis for intergovernmental negotiations on the Post 2015 Development Agenda.

2.4. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The consultations in Ghana were co-led by the UN Country Team (UNCT) and the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC). A Technical Task Team was formed, comprising representatives of the UNCT, NDPC and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). The Technical Task Team reports to the Steering Committee, made up of the leadership of the UNCT and the NDPC. The Task Team worked closely with the decentralized planning system of the country and the CSO networks in organizing stakeholder consultations.

2.5. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION PLAN

The UNCT and NDPC jointly prepared a consultation concept note with a consultation plan, which was submitted to UNDG using a template provided for that purpose. The consultation plan indicated the activities, the timeframe, partners, stakeholders and the budget. In preparing the plan, stakeholders to be engaged were first identified and an appropriate methodology was chosen for each stakeholder group. Some of the options included: launch of the consultations and workshop for the three Northern Regions;

Community Focus Group Discussions in deprived communities in all regions of the country; and a consultation for professional groups. In order to reach as many people as possible, especially the youth and those with the facilities, e-consultations were also used. The consultation concept note and plan were shared with Post 2015 HelpDesk.

2.6. RESOURCES

To help implement the country consultations, seed money of US\$64,000 was received from the UNDG upon approval of Ghana consultation plan. An additional amount of \$30,000 each was mobilised from the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). WFP and UNICEF provided vehicles during the Community Focus Group Discussions (FGDs); IOM provided a vehicle and T-shirts, paid Daily Substance Allowance (DSA) for one Technical Staff and a driver during the FGDs; WHO also provided a vehicle, paid Daily Substance Allowance (DSA) for one Technical Staff and a driver, and UNFPA provided Notepads for Consultations with Professional Groups, and the Validation. Agencies represented at the Technical Committee include UNAIDS, UNDP, IOM, UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF. The government of Ghana provided support in the form of logistics and facilities for the consultations and also hosted the Technical Task Team meetings. Africa 2000 Network, a Civil Society Organisation, was represented throughout and also took up some key facilitation roles.

CHAPTER THREE: THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

3.0 INTRODUCTION

3.1 PROCESS PRINCIPLES

The guidelines provided for the country consultations identified two process principles; inclusion and accountability. The principle of inclusion requires that efforts be made to open the consultation to all stakeholders in the country likely to be affected by a post-2015 development in the country, with particular focus on the normally under-represented or marginalized in the decision making processes. The principle of accountability also requires that efforts be made to ensure that people who participate in the consultations have access to relevant information and can provide feedback to influence the results and process of the consultations. The two principles were adhered to in the design of the consultation plan and the implementation of the activities.

3.2. STAKEHOLDER GROUPS ENGAGED

The stakeholder groups engaged include the following:

- People living in poor and marginalized communities in different parts of the country and with different experiences
- Civil Society
- Media
- Youth
- Private Sector
- Government Agencies
- Development Partners
- Scientific and Technical Community

3.3 CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES

The consultation activities aimed at creating the necessary awareness and stimulating participation in the consultation process. To this end, a number of promotional activities and consultations were carried out before and during the consultations.

3.3.1 Promotional Activities

A communication strategy was developed to ensure increased public awareness of the country consultations. The period for these promotional activities coincided with the political campaign season when the media landscape was inundated with political news, which meant that specialist approach was needed for effective publicity. A sub-committee of the Technical Task Team was therefore charged with the responsibility of ensuring effective promotion of the country consultations. The first consideration was the need for a purposeful communications strategy aimed at:

1. Persuasively using available strategic media tools to draw the attention of the general public even in the midst of political campaign
2. A proper orientation of the General Public to contribute to the discussions on *'The World We Want'*

To this end, the following publicity programmes were implemented:

- A sixty-second television advert was produced and aired on Ghana Television (GTV)
- A sixty-second radio jingle was also produced from the television advert and used on various radio stations.

Besides, the following media outreach programmes were also employed to educate and solicit inputs from the general public:

a. Ghana Television (GTV) Breakfast Show: On 20 November, 2012, two members of the Task Team; Drs Mensa - Bonsu from NDPC and Pa Lamin Beyai from UNDP, attended a live television programme on GTV - the national television station - to create awareness on the country consultations and the public engagement plan. Viewers were encouraged to participate in the public consultations using the available media outlined in the consultation plan. The public was also informed of the arrangements for the official launch of the consultation programme.

b. Radio Discussions: The Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC), a national radio station with networks in all regions, hosted two members of the Task Team; Messrs. Ken Owusu of the NDPC and Wolfgang Haas from the UNCT, to discuss the country consultations during one of the prime time programmes, Unique Morning Drive on 23 November, 2012.

Also, on 26 November, 2012, two representatives of NDPC and the UNCT, Mr. Ken Owusu and Ms. Dennia Gayle respectively were at Joy FM - a private radio station which has affiliations with several local and international radio stations - to promote the country consultations. This was during the Joy FM Super Morning Show, which is a well patronized programme, a prime time current affairs programme on national television.

c. GBC News Programme: On 22 November, 2012, GBC carried the news of the Country consultations. During the 8:00 pm news broadcast dubbed, *Behind the News*, Dr Mensa-Bonsu and Wolfgang were called to make live contributions to help educate the general public on the national consultations and the need for public participation through available channels. The news was broadcast throughout the country.

d. PRESS RELEASE: A press release was issued to all media houses on 21 November 2012 soliciting contributions from the general public especially the professional bodies.

e. The Public Relations Unit of the NDPC wrote a **commentary** on the post-2015 national consultations, which was read by the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation on 29 November, 2012.

f. Banners were printed and displayed at strategic locations of the Launch venue, Tamale, and posters and fliers on post 2015 development agenda were distributed to various parts of Ghana.

g. Facebook and Twitter accounts were opened to create awareness and solicit inputs from as many people as possible especially the youth.

h. Text messaging codes were rented from three cellphone networks to solicit text contributions.

3.3.2. National Launch and Stakeholder Consultation

The national consultation was officially launched in Tamale on 27 November 2012. Tamale was chosen as the venue for the launch because of its location in the northern sector of the country. The Task Team collaborated with CSOs, UNCT partners and the NDPC's network to select participants to the launch and the subsequent stakeholder consultation. Special groups invited include Traditional Leaders; Faith-based Organizations, LGBTI, People Living with Disabilities (PWDs), private sector, government agencies and the academia. Prof. Gabriel Teye, the Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University for Development Studies (UDS), chaired the launch, and addresses were made by the UN RC Ms Ruby Sandhu-Rojon and the Director General of NDPC, Dr. Regina Adutwum. The first stakeholder consultation took place at the same venue immediately after the official launch. The Lead Facilitator was chosen from civil society. The stakeholder consultation lasted a day and a half. A detailed report on the launch and first stakeholder consultation is in chapter four (Full report is also attached to this document).

3.3.3. Community Focus Group Discussions

Another method of Post 2015 consultations was Community-level Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), to capture the views of the urban and rural communities including the poor and marginalized. The Task Team developed a set of criteria for the selection of stakeholders, and communicated it to the Regional Coordinating Councils and District Assemblies of the selected districts. The Technical Team obtained the official list of Deprived Districts from the Ministry of Local Government and Rural

Development. At the district level, the Community Development Officers served as the liaison between the team and the community. They assisted in the selection of the communities to be visited based on the criteria. Another set of criteria was developed to assist the communities to select participants to the community focus group meetings. The details of the criteria are shown in Table 3.1. The final list of communities covers all the administrative regions of the country. A pilot was conducted (see Chapter 3) before the actual FGDs.

These districts were instructed as follows:

- (a) Designate your Community Development Officer or a suitably qualified officer to make the initial contact with the selected community and initiate preparations for the visit. The officer (whose name and phone number should be submitted to the contacts below) will also work with the team to conduct the consultations and prepare the report.

Your District Community Development Officer or relevant Officer should:

- a. Pay an initial visit to the community to;
 - i. inform the traditional and opinion leaders about the intended activity,
 - ii. confirm whether the chosen dates are suitable (i.e., a period when the target persons would be available, such as their off days)
 - iii. provide feedback to us not later than 30th January 2013
 - iv. submit the information to the contact persons below;
- b. Guide the community to select 36 representatives made up of six (6) women, six (6) men, six (6) male youth, six (6) female youth, six (6) vulnerable/challenged community members, and six (6) traditional/opinion leaders to be involved in the Focus Group Consultation for two (2) days. Please, invite representatives of Trade Associations like Hairdressers and Barbers Associations, Tailors and Seamstresses Associations, Market Women Associations to the meeting where available.
- c. Arrange for benches and shady locations for the consultation
- d. Support the team in conducting the community level discussions during the scheduled period
- e. Identify three (3) locals who speak English and the local dialect in each community to support the process.

(iii). Please submit the name of the District Community Development Officer or the designated Officer, contact phone number and other relevant information to the contact persons provided in this mail.

Table 3.1: Selection of Deprived Communities for Focus Group Discussions

Serial #	Region	District	Type of community to be visited	Date
1	Eastern	Afram Plains	Remote / fishing	February 4-5, 2013
2	Brong Ahafo	Sene	Fishing	February 9, 2013
3	Central	Upper Denkyira West	Farming	February 4-5, 2013
4	Central	Komenda	Fishing	February 11, 2013
5	Northern	Bunkpurugu Yunyoo	Conflict zone	February 4-5, 2013
6	Gt. Accra	Dangme East	Salt winning and fishing	February 4-5, 2013
7	Gt. Accra	AMA	Urban Slum	February 11, 2013
8	Ashanti	Sekyere Afram Plains	Farming	February 7-8, 2013
9	Ashanti	KMA	Urban Slum	February 5, 2013
10	Volta	Krachi West	Farming	February 7-8, 2013
11	Volta	Keta Municipal	Fishing/Coastal	February 11, 2013
12	Western	Sefwi Akontonbra	Small Scale Mining/land degradation	February 7-8, 2013
13	Western	SAEMA	Urban Slum	February 11, 2013
14	Upper West	Wa East	Flood Prone /farming	February 7, 2013
15	Upper East	Talensi-Nabdam	Small Scale Mining/ flood prone	February 7-8, 2013

3.3.4 Consultations with Professional Groups

The stakeholder consultation with professional was held on 19 March 2013. The target was national level stakeholders including participants from the private sector, media, civil society, government agencies, development partners, and the scientific and technical communities. Each stakeholder group held a separate consultation to build consensus on the group's position. The framework for discussion was an adapted guiding questions provided in the Guidelines for Country Consultations. Reports of the various groups were presented at a plenary.

3.3.5 E-Consultations

As part of this form of consultation, Facebook, text messaging, and a special email address to advertise and solicit for inputs from the public were used. The detail report is in Chapter Eight.

3.3.6 Validation

Validation of the Ghana Post 2015 Consultation findings brought together all those who participated in the various stages of the consultation process, through a half-day event. Participants were drawn from the various parts of the country. The validation workshop provided the platform to present the key findings of the consultation. The presentation was followed by question and answers, clarifications and comments. The details of the validation are included as Chapter Nine of this report.

CHAPTER FOUR: POST LAUNCH CONSULTATIONS

4.0 INTRODUCTION

The consultations were conducted to stimulate an inclusive debate on a post-2015 development agenda by providing an analytical base, inputs and ideas that:

- (a) build a shared global vision on the ***‘Future We Want’*** with clear recommendations for government, civil society organisations and broad stakeholders;
- (b) amplify the voices of the poor and other marginalized groups in formal negotiation processes; and
- (c) influence intergovernmental processes so that they are aligned to the aspirations of civil society for a post-2015 agenda.

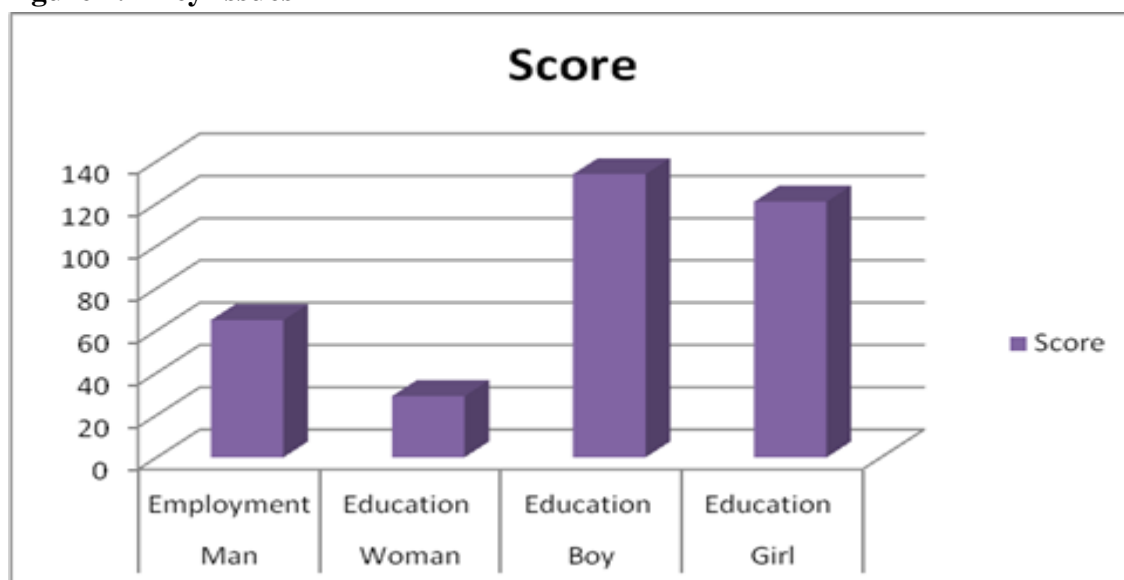
4.1 ORGANIZATION AND METHODOLOGY

The workshop relied mainly on focus group discussions, using moderation cards and the nominal group technique to get the 257 participants to provide input on the issues for discussion. Participants were divided initially into 15 groups and finally merged into 13 groups. Facilitation was done by one (1) Chief Facilitator and thirteen (13) group facilitators together with group chairpersons and rapporteurs. Twenty eight (28) UN and eight (8) NDPC staff and 257 registered participants took part attended. A locally adapted version of the global guide for post 2015 development discussions was generated and utilized for these discussions. Plenary presentations reflecting the focus group interactions as well as special stakeholder groups (women, youth, persons with disability, civil society organizations, academia, aged, men) discussions and their various outcomes were also captured.

4.2 EMERGING ISSUES

4.2.1 What Discussions

Figure 4.1 Key Issues



In respect of what participants considered to be the one (1) important thing for any person (woman, man, boy and girl) in Ghana to be able to live well, approximately eighty-three percent (83%) of the participants highlighted employment as the one most important thing that a man needs. For women, boys, and girls, participants indicated that education as the most important thing. The responses were particularly emphatic for boys and girls, 100% of participants mentioned education, while in the case of women 40% of the respondents indicated education and 25% percent indicated economic empowerment/employment as the second most important issue.

A large number of the respondents who chose education indicated quality education, underscoring the fact that attention ought to be paid to the effectiveness and impact of educational services being provided. They have seen education beyond simply the numbers of individuals educated at any level.

The majority of participants (90%) responded in the affirmative when asked whether there were specific groups of persons that had a peculiar need. In order of priority, the groups identified persons living with disability (34.51%), children (28.32%), then women and the aged who had the same ranking of (11.5%). Girls, boys, persons living with HIV/AIDs, farmers and the youth also had the same ranking of 3.54% each. See Table 4.1 for details. The following are the highest ranked special needs listed by participants:

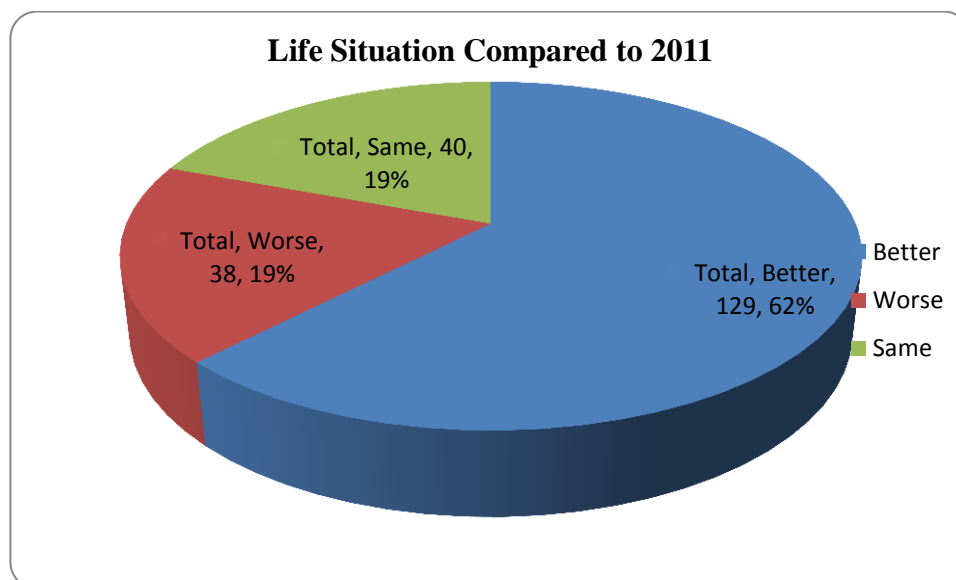
Table 4.1 Needs by Group

Name of Group	Need(s)
PWDs	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Access to hearing and mobility aids such as clutches, white cane and wheelchairs2. Access to buildings)3. Sustainable livelihoods4. Education5. Skill Training6. Teaching and learning materials7. Implementation of the Disability Act8. The mentally need healthcare
Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Education▪ Good nutrition
Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Healthcare▪ Equal participation in decision making▪ Access to resources for income generation activities
Aged	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Healthcare▪ Food security
Girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Education
Boys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Quality education
Farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Subsidies on farming inputs and capital
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Quality education and skills training

When asked whether there were some specific people in their community who were not living well, ninety-eight (98%) answered in the affirmative. The top five (5) ranked groups were; the disabled, widows/widowers, the aged, orphans and women.

The responses to “is your life better, worse or the same now compared to a year ago?” is shown in Figure 4.2.

Figure 4.2



The figure shows 62% of participants concluded that their life is now better and gave better education and employment opportunities and improved financial status. A minority of participants (19%) stated that their life had become worse because of a number of reasons including unemployment, no inputs for farmers, high taxes and poor quality of education. An equal number (19%) stated that their life status was the same as a result of unemployment and a stagnant economy.

The majority (56%) of the participants felt that they were primarily responsible for maintaining or improving their own wellbeing. However forty-three percent (43%) of participants were of the view that the Government has a major role to play in making their lives better. In order of importance, they explained that the government and others stakeholders could help maintain or improve their lives by doing the following:

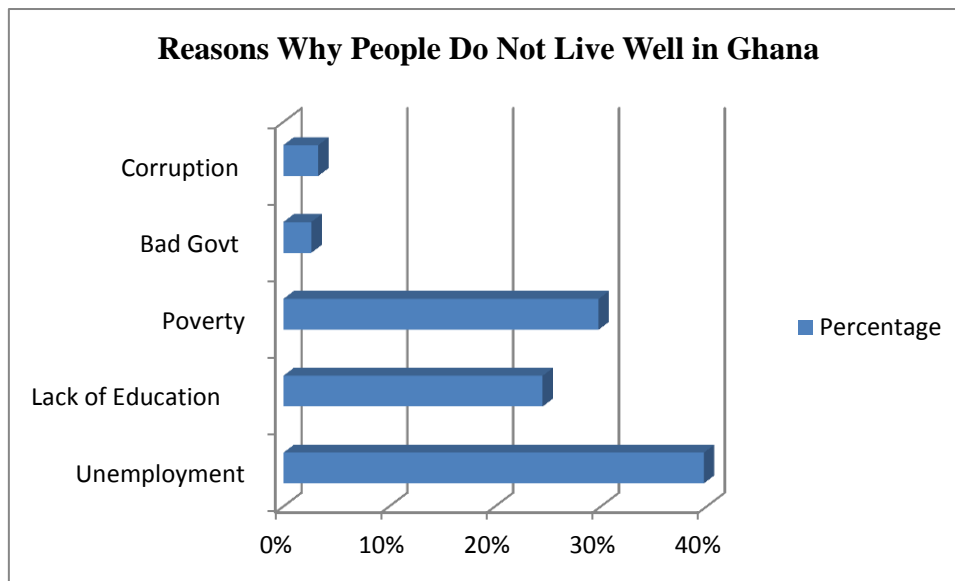
- Creating jobs,
- Maintaining peace and security in the country,
- Providing education,
- Providing better wages, and
- Engaging in good governance practices.

In addressing the question as to what participants could do to improve or maintain their own wellbeing, specific recommendations included the need to develop a positive attitude towards work, further their education, live peacefully with neighbours, undergo skills training, live self-disciplined lives as well as save and invest for the future.

Fifty-eight percent (58%) of respondents ranked education as the most important thing that future generations need in order to live well in Ghana whilst seventeen percent (17%) ranked quality healthcare as the second most important issue. Regarding ensuring their wellbeing and those of others at the community level, expressed the need to protect their environment, natural resources, and the community peace so that people could live well.

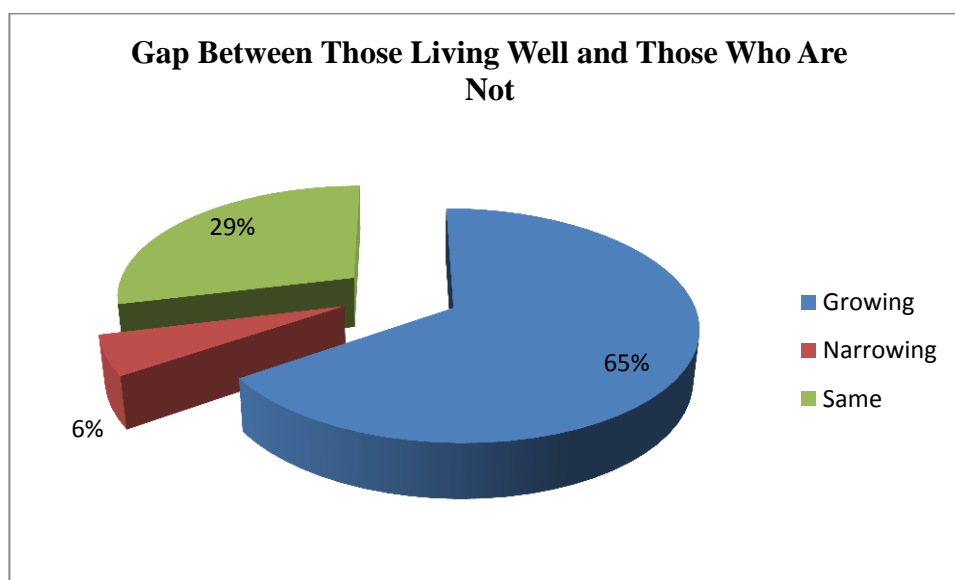
4.2.2 Why Discussions

Figure 4.3



Forty percent (40%) of participants cited unemployment as the primary cause of people's inability to live well whilst thirty percent (30%) cited poverty as the second highest reason. Details are shown in Figure 4.3. The most common evidence participants mentioned to support their views that unemployment is high is the lack of jobs particularly for graduates. In relation to poverty, participants identified difficulties in meeting or providing basic needs for the family as well as inability to access credit facilities as evidence of poverty.

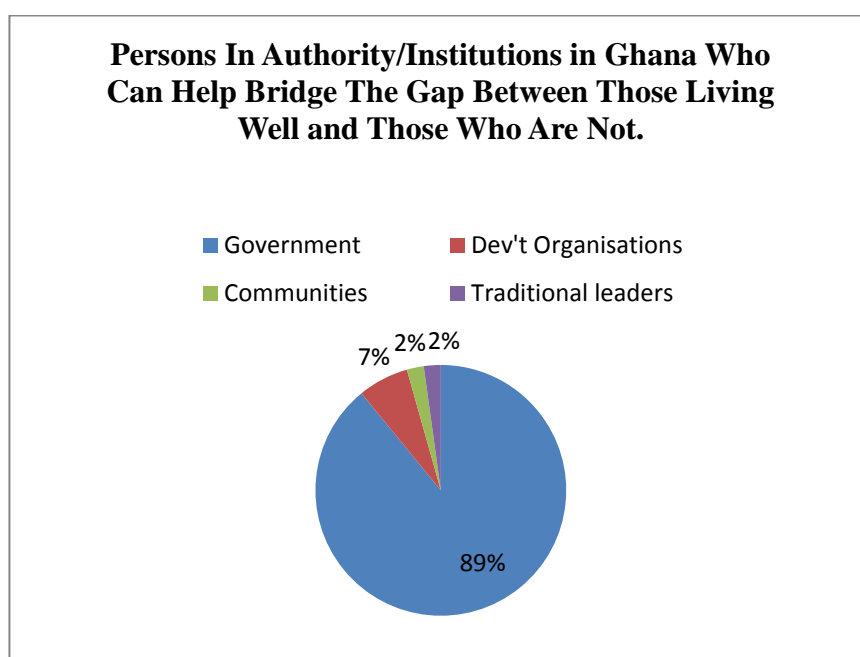
Figure 4.4



The majority (65%) of participants believe that the gap between those living well and those not living well is growing because of unequal distribution of resources and unemployment.

4.2.3 Who Discussions

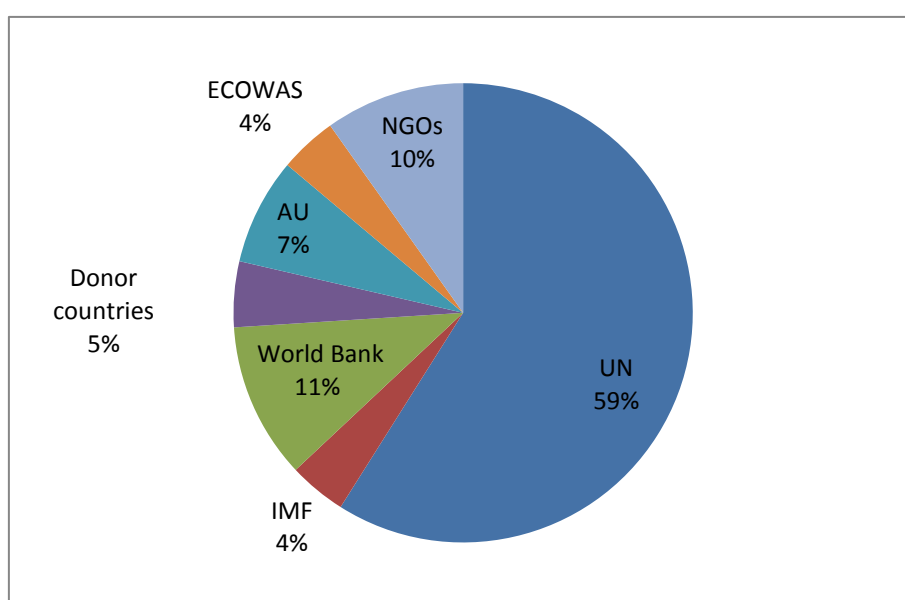
Figure 4.5



Eighty-nine percent (89%) of the participants identified the government as the primary institution responsible for bridging the gap between those living well and those not living well. Other institutions identified as having a duty to bridging the gap were local NGOs, traditional rulers and communities.

Fifty-nine percent (59%) of participants mentioned the UN and its agencies as institutions that could provide some interventions to bridge the growing gap between those living well or not. In order of ranking, the top three institutions mentioned as having the capacity to help bridge the gap were the World Bank, International NGOs, and the African Union. Details are shown in Figure 4.6.

Figure 4.5



4.2.4 How Discussions

Two (2) specific actions were proposed by participants to be undertaken by the institutions in authority to bridge the gap between those living well or not. Forty-three percent (43%) of the responses focused on practicing good governance through enacting and implementing good policies, whilst fifteen percent (15%) highlighted the provision of financial assistance for job creation as another action that persons in authority need to take. Participants identified funds and logistics as important assets needed to accomplish the proposed actions.

Twenty-four percent (24%) of the responses mentioned, encouraging people to enroll in school and another twenty-three (23%) said creating new jobs as the two (2) key things that respondents could do along with other individuals to bridge the growing gap between those living well and those who are not. At the community level, the two (2) key things that respondents indicated they could do to bridge this gap were, communal support including labour and finances for establishing community projects such as schools and hospitals as well as through developing community welfare programmes to help the less privileged. The next key concern respondents expressed was eliminating cultural barriers to development. The merging issues are summarized in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2 Emerging issues for specific groups in Tamale⁴

Name of Group	Need(s)
Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthcare Equal participation in decision making Access to resources for income generation activities
Aged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthcare Food security
Girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education
Boys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality education
Farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subsidies on farming inputs and capital
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality education and skills training
People With Disabilities (PWDs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to hearing and mobility aids such as clutches, white cane and wheelchairs Access to buildings Sustainable livelihoods Education Skill Training Teaching and learning materials Implementation of the Disability Act Healthcare
Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Good nutrition

⁴ A separate comprehensive report is available.

CHAPER FIVE: PRE-TEST FOR COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS

5.0 INTRODUCTION

In order to ensure that the information gathering effort provided quality results, a pilot FGD exercise was conducted by the data gathering team prior to the nation-wide community FGDs.

The specific objectives of the pilot were conducted to:

- (d) Pre-test and validate the data collection instrument.
- (e) Sharpen the data collection skills of data collection team members.

5.1 ORGANIZATION AND METHODOLOGY

The field exercise was organized and coordinated by the NDPC in conjunction with the UN Country Team on 23rd January 2013. The lead data collection facilitator Mr. Edem Senanu developed the strategy and provided hands-on training during the field exercise. A locally adapted version of the global guide for post 2015 development discussions was generated (Annex 5.1) and utilized for the training. Eleven team members participated as reflected in (Annex 5.2).

At the community-level, thirty-six community members were randomly selected by community leaders and consisted of six (6) women, six (6) men, six (6) male youth, six (6) female youth, six (6) other vulnerable/challenged community members and six (6) traditional/opinion leaders to be involved in the focus group discussions.

The following process captured in the FGD Strategy (See Annex 6.5 of Chapter Six) was adopted for organizing the groups:

- (i) Two (2) persons out of the six (6) identified representatives for each of the six (6) outlined groups specifically men, women, male youth, female youth, vulnerable/challenged members and traditional/opinion leaders were divided into three (3) groups of at least twelve (12) persons each to hold focus group discussions with at least three (3) facilitators and one (1) interpreter.
- (ii) After this, focus group discussions were held with each group on the Post 2015 Development Agenda for about two and a half (2.5) hours using the Community Focus Group Reporting Format.
- (iii) Subsequently, the participants were re-organized into Special Groups to validate the initial information for forty five (45) minutes using the validation questions in

(Annex 5). The special or vulnerable group session was held to validate and ensure that the special needs, concerns or expectations of women, youth, and persons with disability had been captured and to identify any new and relevant areas for attention.

- (iv) Finally, a plenary session was held for closing remarks, and a group photograph taken.

Although thirty-six (36) community members were targeted, eventually seventy-eight (78) community members consisting of thirty two (32) males and forty six (46) females participated. The feedback from the stakeholder group discussions (women, youth, persons with disability, and their various outcomes were captured. Contact details for the focus group participants are also captured in (Annexes 3), whilst the participant's list format is documented in (Annexes 6).

5.2 REPORTING FORMAT

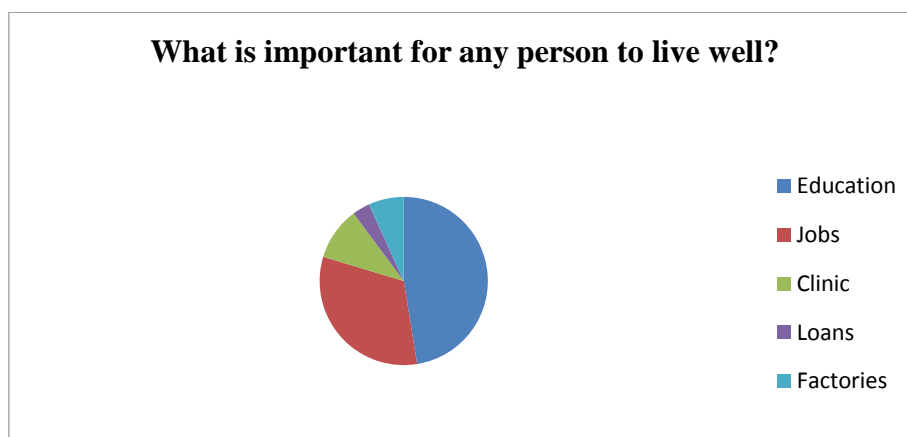
This report is divided into four sections. Section one includes a brief introduction to the fieldwork exercise. This is followed by section two, which provides a comprehensive summary covering outcomes of the pilot exercise. Specifically, this section covered the *what, why, who, how*. Section three reflects the validation session whilst section four captures the field work review session held immediately after the pilot exercise and reflects the recommendations made by the lead data collection facilitator during this session.

5.3 DATA COLLECTION

The pilot was run and pre-test data was collected in Manchie community in the Ga-West district within the Greater Accra region of Ghana.

5.3.1 What?

Figure 5.1



The data in Figure 5.1 indicates that out of 59 initial respondents twenty-eight (28) or 49.46% highlighted education as the most important issue for any person to live well while 32.2% identified jobs and 10.1% said access to health facilities.

All the 59 respondents (100%) noted that there were people living in their community who they believed were not living well. Specific groups mentioned in order of emphasis included (i) women, (ii) persons with disability, (iii) the aged and (iv) the youth. Regarding what they need to live well, Table 5.1 highlights the various groups and the specific needs as articulated:

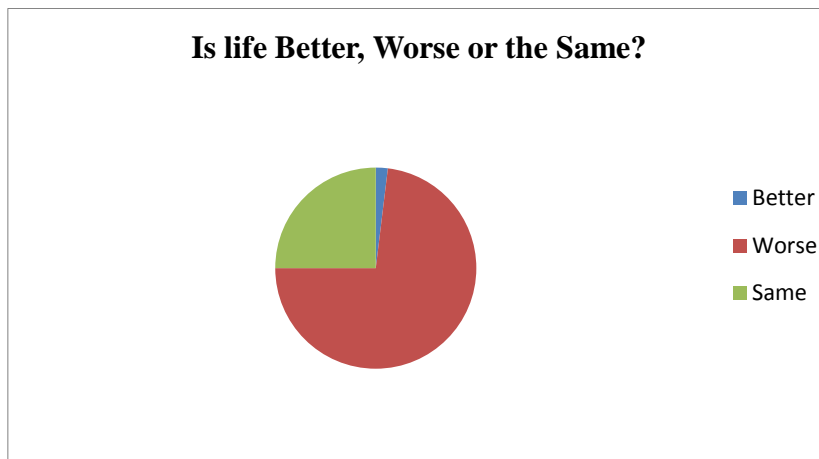
Table 5.1 Specific Needs for Vulnerable Groups

Category	Stated Need
Women	Market, Jobs, loans, skills training, factory
Persons With Disability	Medical assistance, loans/working capital
Aged	Loans/working capital
Youth	Jobs

When respondents were asked to consider the issue of “*How many of you think your lives are better, worse or the same over the past year comparing the year 2012 to 2011*” (Figure 2), 73.07% of those who responded felt that life had become worse because

they lost their jobs, farm lands, family members, and had to borrow to survive. Twenty-five per cent (25%) indicated that their lives were unchanged because they had no jobs in 2011 and still had no jobs in 2012, while only 2% said life was better because their income had increased over time. Details are shown in Table 5.2.

Figure 5.2

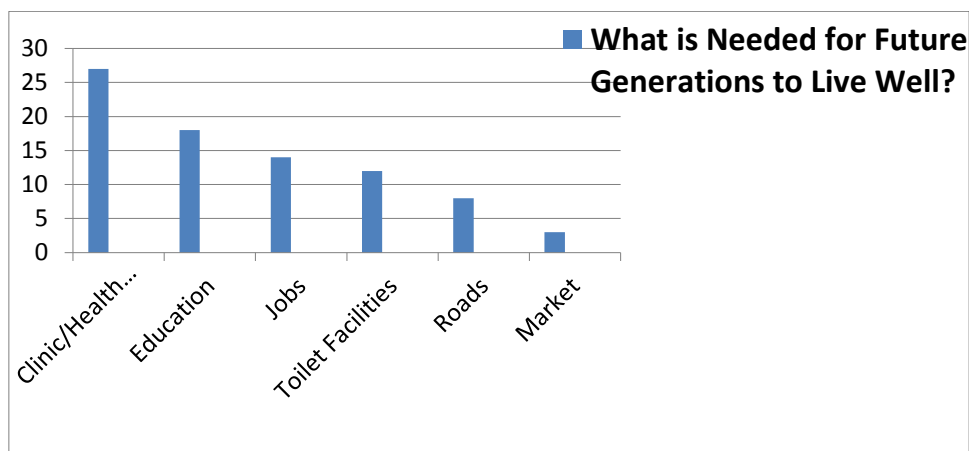


In relation to whether there were community traditions or practices that have helped to ensure that community members live well and peacefully, three (3) practices were mentioned, (i) Ensuring that farm animals do not roam the community unattended to, (ii) Organizing communal labour to clean the environment and maintenance of good sanitation; and (iii) Restricting community members from going to the riverside on Fridays.

5.3.2. Why?

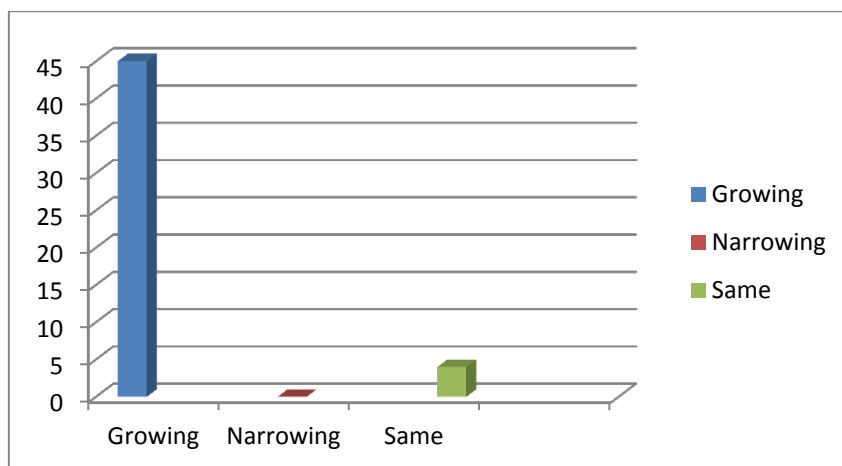
Regarding the main reasons why some people do not live well in Manchie community, a variety of reasons were advanced including: (i) the lack of jobs, (ii) no loans/working capital, (iii) no markets, (iv) no lands for farming, (v) increased cost of living in 2012 compared to previous years, (vi) teenage pregnancy and (vii) lack of communal unity. Considering what will be needed for future generations to live well Figure 5.3 shows the areas of emphasis for respondents in Manchie.

Figure 5.3



When respondents were also asked “*Is the gap between those living well and those who are not living well growing, narrowing or the same?*” 91.83% said the gap was growing, and nobody believed that the gap was narrowing; another 8.16 % said the gap was the same. The responses are shown in Figure 5.4.

Figure 5.4 Is the Gap Growing, Narrowing or the Same?



5.3.3 Who?

When the question was asked whether those who are not living well can catch up with those who are living well; 89.47% answered in the positive and 10.52% do not think so. This suggests that community members generally do not think the situation is absolutely hopeless and are hoping for specific support to enable them do better. Then regarding

who should or needed to help those not living well to catch up with those living well, the following recommendations were made: (i) The Government, (ii) Members of Parliament, (iii) NGO's, (iv) Self-Help by community members, (v) The Assembly Man, (vi) The Chief, and (vii) Private Sector Companies. There was a strong emphasis on interventions by Government, its agencies and representatives in the responses.

5.3.4 How?

Regarding how the vulnerable and marginalized groups could be supported to have better lives, the responses are as follows:

1. The District Chief Executive and or Assembly Man could meet and discuss the relevant challenges with the community.
2. The Chief of the community and or the Assembly Man could inform Government about the challenges being faced by the community and specific groups within the community.
3. Government should note their challenges and help such communities and groups.
4. The MP could utilize his common fund to assist in addressing some concerns.
5. Community members and groups could establish self-help initiatives and contribute cash and kind.
6. Development partners should help such communities and groups.

When community respondents were further asked to state how they would know that their desired changes have been achieved and wellbeing improved, the following key indicators were listed (Table 5.2):

Table 5.2 Indicators of Achievement

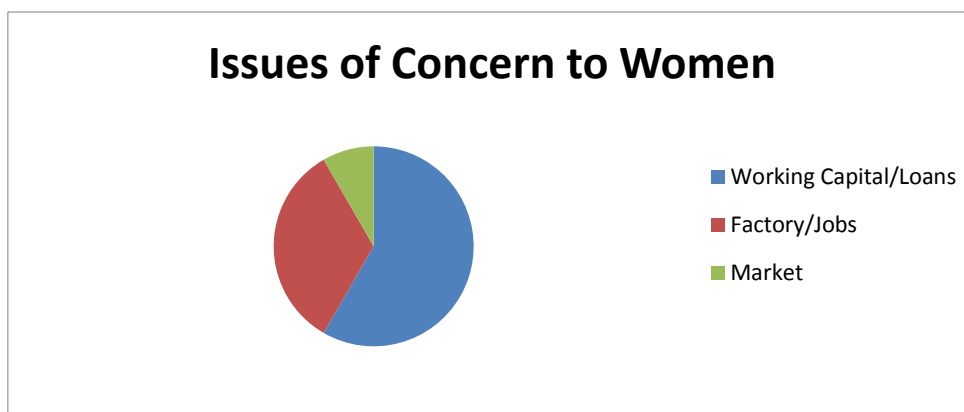
Number	Key Indicator
1.	Number of new jobs
2.	Number of community members provided with skills training
3.	Presence of good access roads
4.	Presence of healthcare facility
5.	Access to working capital/loans

5.4 VALIDATION OF VULNERABLE GROUP CONCERNS

5.4.1 Women

In the special or vulnerable group validation sessions, the women of Manchie highlighted the following key issues they wanted tackled as part of the Post 2015 global development agenda focus. See Figure 5.5 for details.

Figure 5.5



From Figure 5.5, 58.3% indicated that working capital or loans to start or expand their businesses was crucial. Another 33.33% highlighted the need to obtain jobs that would make them gainfully employed in order to support themselves and their families and contribute meaningfully to community life. Taking these two (2) statistics together, as much as 91.63% of the responses provided by the women only group focused on jobs or employment related issues.

Four (4) specific proposals on how these concerns could be addressed were made:

1. The women should form groups to make it easier for them to access loans.
2. Banks should be encouraged to extend loans to women in the community.
3. The government should build more factories and employ community members.
4. A market should be constructed for the community.

The women expected their Assemblyman to take the lead in this process of engagement and getting solutions. They expected that the time frame for addressing their concerns should start “now” for every issue.

When asked whether there were other issues, which affect their wellbeing, they reiterated the need for job creation for example through establishing factories and highlighted the need for a midwife or skilled birth attendant to assist in child birth and indicated that sand winning activities had affected availability of land for farming.

5.4.2. Men

The men of Manchie raised four (4) issues as major concerns they wanted addressed:

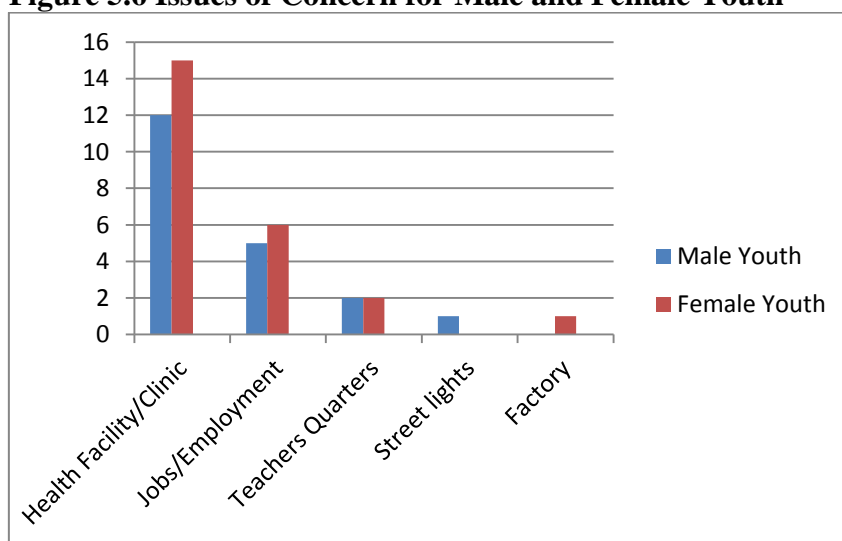
1. Health
2. Sanitation
3. Jobs
4. Infrastructure particularly roads

Regarding how these could be tackled, they stated that the District Chief Executive, Member of Parliament and or Assembly Man who represent the Government should work at addressing these issues. In addition, they emphasized that the landlords should be engaged to make land available and reduce sand-winning activities. The men also highlighted the need to collaborate with NGOs and the private sector for solutions to their challenges.

5.4.3. Youth

The youth aged 15 - 29 were divided into two (2) groups for male youth and female youth. Their concerns, which were generally similar, are captured in Figure 5.6:

Figure 5.6 Issues of Concern for Male and Female Youth



Both male and female youth ranked (i) Access to health facilities - 60% Male, 62.5% Female (ii) Employment- 25% Male, 25% Female and (iii) Teachers Quarters - 10% Male, 8.3% Female as the top three (3) concerns they wanted addressed. In addition, the male youth advocated for street lights, while the females proposed establishing factories, which essentially adds to their emphasis on job creation or employment opportunities. It is also significant to note that other issues such as roads, an ICT centre, market and toilet facilities came up during the FGDs but were not voted for during the

ranking exercise. With respect to how these issues can be tackled, the following proposals were made (Table 5.3):

Table 5.3: How can the Concerns be Tackled

No:	Female Youth	Male Youth
1	Through using the MPs Common Fund	Appeal to the District Assembly/Government
2	Through establishing factories	Obtain land from the Land Lords
3	The Assembly should tackle these issues	Raise these issues through the Assembly Man to the District Assembly
4	The MP should lobby for good roads	The community can start its own initiatives
5	-	There can be partnership and cost sharing between the community, government, NGOs and the private sector

Concerning the issue of “who” should take the lead in addressing these issues, the male youth focused (100%) on the assembly man, and the female youth indicated that the MP, Government and its representatives as well as NGOs should take the lead. With respect to the time frame or “when”, most respondents felt that these issues should be tackled immediately even though the females recommended from 2015 in line with the guiding questions.

When the youth were asked whether there were any other issues they wanted resolved, they further emphasized, access to jobs and a health facility. In addition, they highlighted the need to have loans to support entrepreneurial and other business activities.

5.4.4. Persons with Disability

One (1) person with walking disability was interviewed. She indicated that transportation to move around and working capital/loans to run a business were the two (2) major concerns she had and wanted addressed as part of the post 2015 development agenda. Asked how these could be tackled satisfactorily, she mentioned a car to take her especially to hospital and the provision of funds for feeding would be satisfactory. Who should take the lead? She said “anybody” including government.

When to start? Her response was “now!”

5.5. REVIEW OF DATA COLLECTION EXERCISE

After the pilot FGD, the team members had a review session where the following issues were highlighted by the trainer for attention based on the field work:

1. Start as early in the morning as possible latest 8:30am would be good, to avoid the heat and tiredness around mid-day.
2. As much as possible, ensure that all group participants including the facilitator sit in a circle. The facilitator should not sit in a manner that has participants behind him or her or stand which can be intimidating.
3. Stick to the interview guide to make good use of time.
4. Do not get surprised by any responses. Remember all responses are considered right. Where the response appears to lack clarity, probe with a few follow-up questions.
5. Meeting in open spaces under trees and where ventilation is optimized, is preferable because it tends to stay more comfortable in the long run. Specifically, because rooms without fans/AC become warmer and uncomfortable as the sun rises.
6. If initially participants appear not to be forthcoming with responses, clapping for the few who respond usually helps to encourage others to share their responses.
7. Ensure that three (3) good interpreters are selected in advance of visit to the community.
8. Ensure one camera per team and a digital voice recorder per facilitator. Practice use of this equipment before you get to the field.
9. Remind the District officer to have sufficient chairs and benches arranged in advance.
10. Inform the District Officer to choose a suitable location other than the usual community meeting place to avoid a large crowd gathering as was the case in this instance.
11. Preferably the selected community should not have chieftaincy or leadership conflict. If it does, then the team should conduct some background research and work through with neutral parties to organize the community FGD.
12. Remember to obtain a community profile or some background data from the district staff, to facilitate report writing.
13. Don't use your left hand or cross legs in front of traditional leaders.
14. Check that the youth e.g. some school going children have also been contacted and organized to participate.
15. In discussions with the contact person i.e. the District Development or Planning Officer, emphasize the need to stick to the agreed number of participants as much as possible.
16. Remember to purchase some sachet water and some soft drinks for at least 36 participants, anticipating a slightly larger number is advisable.

17. Interpreters should be told at the start that they should not influence discussions with their views. If they have anything to share, this should be done after all others have spoken.
18. Similarly, traditional authorities and their representatives should be appealed to help facilitate the discussions by encouraging their community members to speak first and to wait till after community members have spoken before sharing. This is within the context that traditionally a subject or community member is not allowed to speak after the chief or his representative speaks.
19. Kola or the equivalent in cash typically ten Cedis may be required to engage the chiefs/traditional rulers in rural areas.
20. It may be necessary to consider money for fuel for district officers who have to move to communities to organize the FGDs.
21. Long sessions can be broken up with energizers for participants to stretch.
22. Community Entry: If participants are seated
 - Shake hands and go round from right to left
 - Sit down
 - Then the District Officer can request community leaders to have an opening prayer
 - The District Officer should provide a general introduction to the team
 - Team members can then introduce themselves and the team leader indicate the objective of the interactions
 - The team leader should then facilitate formation of three (3) random groups of 12 members each
 - After a maximum of 3 hours reorganize participants into special groups i.e. women only, men only, girls, boys, PWDs etc.
 - Soft drinks can be shared towards the third hour after 11am for those who start at 8.30 am
 - Complete the special group session in 1 hour.
 - Thank participants for making themselves available and contributing
 - Let community or traditional representative provide their closing remarks
 - Take a group picture
 - Take a picture that helps identify the community

ANNEX 5

ANNEX 5.1: FACILITATION GUIDE

	QUESTION TYPE	QUESTIONS/CONTENT	GUIDING NOTES
	WHAT?	1. What is important for any person (woman, man, boy and girl) in this country/community to live well? And why?	For the why; Probe to get specifics on the responses (for example, if education is mentioned, try to find out what type, what level, etc.; if health what is the expectation regarding health or their idea of good health (system))
		2. Are there people who you think are not living well in this community at all? Who are they and what do they need?	Use the question below to probe into why these people do not live well. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the primary reason you think they are not living well?
		3. How many of you think your lives are better, worse or same over the past year? (Comparing 2012 to 2011)	Tally and get each sub-group to provide an explanation on their choice of option.
		4. Are there community traditions or activities that you think have helped to ensure that community members are living well and peacefully that need to be protected?	Please get them to list the traditions or activities.
	WHY?	5. What are the main reasons why some people do not live well in this community and why?	
		6. What will be needed for future generations to live well and why?	
		7. Is the gap between those living well and those who are not living well growing/same/narrowing? Why?	Please tally and capture number of group members who indicate growing, same or narrowing.
		8. Do you think that from what you have seen/observed over the past year; those who are not living well can catch up with those who are doing well? Why?	Tally the initial Yes or No responses and probe why for both Yes and No
	WHO?	9. Who needs to help for those not living well to catch up with those living well in the community?	Responses should be limited to top 3. They can vote by show of hands to indicate priorities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who else can help, and what should they do? E.g. (individuals, community groups, district assemblies, NGOs, Private Sector, Financial Institutions, international organizations)
	HOW?	10. What approaches should the actors identified earlier use to ensure that those not living well catch up with those living well in your community?	Please list actors mentioned previously to help FG members respond.

	WHEN?	11. How will you know when you have achieved the change or what method will you use to know you have achieved it?	
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ANNEX 5.2: DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENT

(Refer to Annexes 6.1 & 6.2 of Chapter Six)

ANNEX 5.3: DATA-COLLECTION PRE-TEST FACILITATION TEAM MEMBERS

Number	Name	Institutions
1	Pa Lamin Beyai	UNDP
2	Mr. Kwaku Adjei-Fosu	NDPC
3	Mr. Farouk Anderson	NDPC
4	Ms. Mariam Salifu	UNDP
5	Ms. Jasmyn Beatrice Okai	UNAIDS
6	Ms Georgina Eyeson	UNAIDS
7	Mr. Nana Yaw Adutwum	UNDP
8	Mr. Bright Owusu	UNDP
9	Ms. Pearl Naa Dedei Tetteh	NDPC
10	Mr. Charles Konglo	NDPC
11	Mr. Edem Senanu	AFICA 2000 NETWORK - GHANA

ANNEX 5.4: FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS

Focus Group 1 Participants

No.	NAME	PHONE CONTACT(S)	GENDER
1	Godson Zormelo	0547315095	M
2	Seth Amewoalor	0243272543	M
3	Ebenezer Quartey	0549702628	M
4	Simon Agbamaglo	0242931475	M
5	Esther Zometi	0242907752	F
6	Paul Anzana	0247685288	M
7	Nii Oto Dodoo	0240165752	M
8	Steven Dagadu	0201125116	M
9	Adjetey Famous	0244188178	M
10	Rukaya Allahassan	0549888783	F
11	Ajara Moro	0542035840	F
12	Maria Agbanyo	-	F
13	Azane Alex	0541037124	M
14.	Zametu Seth	-	M
15.	Gabriel Negble	-	M
16.	Joyce Torsu	-	F
17.	Gifty Koku	0278168620	F
18.	Margaret Agbetiseh	0247447994	F
19.	Paulina Alorwuseh	-	F
20.	Matilda Sablah	-	F
21.	Jennifer Kpo	0232613042	F
22.	Beya Cobbah	-	F
23.	Kofi Aglasu	-	F
24.	Patience Gomido	-	M
25.	Linda Tokro	-	F
26.	Georgina Dagbe	0543725419	F
27.	Rose Dogbe	0246442709	F
28.	Johnson Dogbe	-	M

Focus Group 2 Participants

No.	NAME	PHONE CONTACT(S)	GENDER
1	Mansah Amowalo	-	F
2	Gbogah Kpomogbeh	-	F
3	Victoria Aklastu	-	F
4	Victoria Akaboah	0246877037	F
5	Faustina Tosu	-	F
6	Susanna Gbagba	-	F
7	Christopher Aklasu	0241109658	M
8	Muhammed Awudu	0246993632	M
9	Emmanuel Afedu	-	M
10	Mustapher Moro	0509199991	M
11	Joseph Agbeko	0247597131	M
12	Victoria Dogbe	0244905421	F
13	Victoria Agbanago	-	F
14.	Agartha Horgli	-	F
15.	Akosua Zebuah	0242115670	F
16.	Grace Buame	0548727126	F
17.	Hornam Wurnoy	-	F
18.	Wisdom Edom	0249369255	M

Focus Group 3 Participants

No.	NAME	PHONE CONTACT(S)	GENDER
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2	Felicia Temanu	-	F
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21.	Dorcas Boamah	-	F
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28.	Anani Aguze	0208481068	M
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CHAPTER SIX: COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS

6.0 INTRODUCTION

The analysis of the community FGDs is done by specific groups, such as urban slums, farmers, fishing communities etc. In all, 419 persons were engaged in the Focus group meetings. This included 232 males and 187 females.

6.1. URBAN SLUMS

For the voices of the urban poor, 3 different urban slum communities were targeted, namely Ayigya Zongo, within Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly, Ga-Mashie, Accra Metropolitan Assembly and New Takoradi of Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly.

Issues that were of concern to the 3 communities in general were Environment and Sanitation; Peace and Security; Education and Skills Training; Housing and Employment. According to the residents of these communities, issues of Environment and Sanitation were of concern because they lacked facilities like public toilets, waste disposal sites and even drainage systems. Given that the majority of the residents of these communities were migrant communities; it was obvious that access to land space was a challenge. The rapid rural-to-urban migration (urbanization) is adding to the pressure on already over-stretched urban resources and services, especially housing/land. This was reflected in their concern for accommodation or housing facilities. Many of the respondents from these communities indicated that they were not employed and therefore could not acquire lands to put up their own houses. Besides, rent prices kept increasing beyond their means therefore they cannot afford to rent. For reasons such as these and more, they deemed education and skills training very important and necessary for the improvement of their lives and living conditions. They suggested that qualified teachers be provided for schools in their communities and also recommended that skill-training centers be established in their communities. Summary is shown in Table 6.1.

Another issue of concern was security. According to the participants, the fact that they were the “poor” living among the “rich”, social vices were often associated with them, thereby making them targets of crimes and criminal activities. However, the true criminals, who are not usually resident in the slum communities, identify themselves as members of their communities, when caught in their criminal act. The participants therefore suggested that Police Posts be built in their communities and community watch dog committees be formed to stamp out such malpractices.

Besides the general issues for the 3 communities, peculiar issues emerged for individual communities. For instance, the participants from New Takoradi, a coastal community, mentioned Sea Defense as an issue of concern. The effects of climate change on the rising sea levels is gradually taking away their land and destroying their homes, hence the need for urgent attention. Ayigya Zongo, being close to the site of an incomplete Governments Affordable Project in Kumasi, mentioned that the incomplete site has since turned into the habitat for criminals and enclave for criminal activities. This is putting their lives at risk and for that matter appealed for government to complete the facility and rid the place of criminals. See Table 6.1 for the summary.

Table 6.1: Summary of findings for Urban Slums

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Environment and Sanitation	Lack of places of convenience and proper disposal of waste brings about unpleasant smell and the spread of diseases.	The District Assembly	Waste bins and containers should be emptied on time; Public toilets or places of convenience must be built to meet the growing population in the community.	When there is public toilets and waste management services that they do not have to defecate as well as dispose their waste anywhere in the community
Peace	Peace and security is needed to reduce crime rate and also fish out miscreants or criminals who are not residents of the communities yet tarnish the image of community residents.	The Police and Youth of the community	Police post should be built in communities; community watch dog committees.	When the residents of the community are not tagged as criminals or suspects of crimes and are not targets of lynching and abuse
Housing	Most of them are migrants who have neither accommodation nor land to build their homes and also no the money to rent.	Government	Affordable housing projects should be completed and new more built.	When the Government Affordable Housing is completed and they are also given accommodation or when they have good jobs to be able to afford a decent rent facility
Education and Skills Training	Without education, nor skills training, it is difficult to get a job and without decent	Government and	Qualified teachers to teach children to reduce poor rates of the BECE	When their children have more BECE success rate

	jobs, the youth resort to criminal activities.	NGOs	results. The Youth should be taught skills that will enhance their chances to work.	
Employment	1. Lack of employment leads to social vices, especially among the youth.	Self-initiative, Government, Financial Institutions	The Youth, and especially women, should be supported with loans to startup businesses or expand them. Market structure is put up for the women in the communities.	When the youth are able to get good jobs and are able to take care of themselves and their families

6.2 FISHING COMMUNITIES

To garner the issues of the fishing communities, 5 communities were visited, namely Wasakusewayo of Ada East District in the Greater Accra Region, Komenda in the KEEA of Central Region, Bruben of Kwahu North District in the Eastern Region, Woe of Keta Municipal in the Volta Region and Akyeremade Battor in the Sene West District of Brong Ahafo Region.

For the fishing communities, issues of concern include Employment, Road, Water, Electricity, Environment, Sanitation and Waste Management. For most of them, their main source of employment is fishing. However, they are unable to afford the fishing inputs such as premix fuel, outboard motors, fishing net, and canoe among others. The rising cost of these inputs hampers their employment efforts. They suggested that Government, who is the supplier of Premix Fuel come to their aid with adequate and timely supply of the Premix Fuel. They also requested of Government to assist in providing the fishing inputs at a subsidized rate and even assist them with credit to acquire these inputs for their fishing activities. Summary is shown in Table 5.2.

The road network to most of these communities is often in poor condition. They indicated that the bad condition of the roads makes it difficult to cart their produce to the market centres. It takes a long time to reach the market centres even when they are fortunate enough to have a transport to cart their catch to the market. This results in their catches almost going bad by the time they get to the market centres. Thus, the bad roads make it more expensive to send their catches to the market centres. Linked to that is the need for electricity. They mentioned that a lack of electricity means they cannot even operate a cold store that could be used to preserve their catches besides giving their children an opportunity to study in the evening.

To many of them, the water body, which is the source of fishing, also serves as their drinking water. Fishing activities such as the use of chemicals and others have rendered the water unsafe for drinking. Besides the fishing activities, the water banks become the place for laundry, disposal of waste and defecation, as they do not have toilet facilities. They therefore suggested that potable water be provided for them to curb the spread of water borne diseases and also irrigation facility be built for them to aid their farming activities as well.

The community members made suggestions for the provision of Public Toilet Facilities, Drainage and improvement in Waste Management in the communities. Besides the general issues, the peculiar issues for each community also emerged. In Wasakuse, a coastal fishing community of Greater Accra, the effect of climate change was apparent as their water bodies were drying up, if not dried up hence were suggesting dredging and other means of re-claiming and protecting the water body.

Also, Komenda, in the Central Region, used to have a Sugar Processing Factory. Many respondents indicated that closing down of the factory has led to unemployment among the youth of the community therefore suggesting strongly the reviving of the Sugar Factory as a way of creating employment for their youth. See Table 6.2 for summary matrix.

Table 6.2: Summary matrix for Fishing Communities

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Employment	No source of income making the youth especially migrate to other communities	Government, the Rich and NGOs	They can produce more fishing inputs like the premix fuel, outboard motors and canoes etc at a cheaper cost to engage them in fishing. Structures like landing beach will also help. The Rich should also employ the poor in the community.	When there is income generating activities with guaranteed income
Road	Accesses to the community and market centers are hampered by poor road network. A good road is needed to make transportation of their products cheaper and faster.	Government and District Assembly	They should build roads or repair existing ones so that they can get their produce to the markets	When there is good road network
Environment,	Due to lack of	Government,	They should stop people	When there is

Sanitation and waste management	toilet facilities as well as a better dump site, the community members resort to easing themselves in the water bodies and disposing refuse in these bodies.	NGOs, Member of Parliament, Assemblyman and Traditional Authorities	from disposing refuse and toilets in the water bodies and Government should build KVIPs and Waste Dumping Sites.	public toilets, a refuse dump and people stop throwing refuse in the water bodies
Water	They need potable water to eliminate water borne diseases. Due to fishing activities, they water bodies are polluted and also the effect of climate change is drying up their water sources.	Government, NGOs, District Assembly	They should provide boreholes for drinking water and build irrigation facility for their farming activities	When the water bodies are not polluted anymore and is not drying up
Education	Education to give their children a better opportunity in life.	Government, NGOs and District Assembly	They should set up schools especially nursery and build accommodation for qualified teachers	When children are no longer dropping from school but are also passing their exams well
Electricity	For cold store or preservation of their fishes and business	Government	To extend power to the community.	When there is electricity in the community

6.3. FARMING COMMUNITIES

Four farming communities were visited namely, Baayire of Wa East District in the Upper West Region, Osramane of Krachie-West District of the Volta Region, Drobonso of the Sekyere Afram Plains District in the Ashanti Region and Essuadei of Upper Denkyira West of the Central Region.

For the farming communities, the main issues of concern to them included Security, Water, Markets, Road, Health Facility, Employment and Communication Network.

Security was very important to them because herdsmen destroy their farms with their herds. According to them, the herdsmen are mainly nomadic, who destroy their farms through cattle grazing. When farmers or farm owners confront these herdsmen, it results in conflict and sometimes loss of lives. To address the situation, they suggested that their farms be protected from the intrusion and destruction of these herds. According to them, this can be done by requesting these migrant herdsmen to restrict their herds to a confined area to guarantee security of lives and properties of the farmers. Summary is shown in Table 6.3.

This problem between herdsmen and farmers is very old, and very difficult to resolve, due to the lack of higher level representatives of the nomads due to their livelihood strategy. So there is nobody really to negotiate with. But clearly, in addition to the protection, there is a need for serious alternatives and recognition of the needs of the herdsmen as well. Often these problems have been aggravated by agricultural intensification and area expansion, blocking traditional access tracks etc.

For most communities, farming has been rain-fed. The savannah community like Baayire in the Upper West Region, experiences long droughts and unfavorable rainfall pattern (i.e. 3 months of rainfall in a year) rendering them redundant in the greater part of a year. They therefore requested for an irrigation facility as a matter of urgency. Water for irrigation, according to them is important to keep them farming all year round and to ensure food security as they would produce enough for the year. Besides water for irrigation, they also mentioned potable water as an issue of concern to them because they do not have enough boreholes to meet the growing population.

Market was also an issue of concern to the farming communities. Most of the communities have to travel long distances, often on poor roads, to get to market centres. This was also the concern of the fishing community of Bruben in the Eastern Region, where it was mentioned that middlemen were engaged to get the farm produce to the markets and they end up exploiting the farmers because the markets for farm products are very far from the farms. Access to market through better roads and transportation/communication infrastructure are very important. In addition, the main

factors are strengthened linkages between private actors (strengthening organizations/cooperatives and helping and facilitating to establish sustained transparent commercial linkages), and increased farm productivity. Regarding prices, the actual barrier to accessing markets for most farmers is their low level of labour and capital productivity, as they are simply not competitive. Too much public intervention has focused on farm production, to meet the targets of food security for the nation. However, for farmers to become food secure, efforts have to be directed at reducing the cost of production per unit of output. The production cost is the only thing one can control, not necessarily the market prices, as has been reconfirmed by NAFCOs operations in the context of Ghana's food buffer stock programme.

On the issue of middle-men, it is true that they can absorb a lot of the margin in the value chain of a given commodity. But often they play a critical role providing a number of services, such as organizing transport (with high costs), pre-financing purchase of goods with bank loans, storage, marketing etc, with attendant high risks. The actual service of these middlemen in making value chains work in a very difficult commercial environment may be underrated. This calls for the establishment of linkages between the actors, based on transparency to build trust and reduce transaction cost.

A health facility, especially a hospital was mentioned in the communities as very important. This, according to them, is because most hospitals are far from them, i.e. in other communities and those close to them or in their communities are the CHPS, as is the case for Drobonso in the Ashanti Region. These CHPS compound provides limited health services. Most of these farmers, especially the cocoa growing areas, are at risk of snake bites and maternal mortality rates are also high, hence their suggestion to have hospitals in their communities to keep them healthy and more productive. Summary is shown in Table 6.3.

Due to the rising cost of farm inputs like fertilisers, improved seeds and farm machinery, farming is becoming unattractive to the youth. According to them, this is leading to unemployment among the youth. Therefore, it was suggested that farm inputs should be subsidised and credit facility provided for them to be able to engage in farming. As part of their self-initiative, they also acknowledged the need for the formation of cooperatives or association to enable them access credit and farm input.

There is continuous call for subsidies. Of course, everybody wants things for free, and particularly in Ghana's Agriculture Sector, decades of public intervention in credit, input and produce markets have left a completely dysfunctional system that produces high transaction costs and makes most of these assets inaccessible to the poor. Due to wrong targeting, the beneficiaries of most of these subsidies are those who do not need them in the first place. In fact, the fertilizer subsidy (like almost all credit subsidies in

the past) is just leading to the exclusion of the poor. Proper targeting complemented with, liberalised and competitive market for those who can afford would likely make inputs available widely and at more affordable prices.

Education was considered crucial for their children. According to them, education is the only means through which their children and the youth can develop and live better lives. Education, to them, is the key to human development hence the need for their children to attain a minimum of Secondary School Education. It was suggested that schools be set up in communities, with accommodation for teachers to attract qualified teachers.

Last but not the least; communication network also emerged as an issue among the farming communities. According to them, information about prices of farm produce at the market centres would be useful in their planning and other related purposes. In a community like Baayire, which had no telecommunication network, they suggested that the Telecommunication networks extend their services to their communities. Besides that, they deem it necessary for the education of their children. Summary is shown in Table 6.3.

Peculiar to Baayiri is that, it is also a flood prone community and in the savannah region of Ghana. Flooding emerged as a major development issue in that community. It was explained that floods, in addition to droughts, destroy their farms and properties every year, thus depriving them of the fruit of their labour. As a result, most of the youth migrate to urban centres and other communities leaving only the aged and the children in the community. It was indicated that many of the migrants risk their lives to engage in illegal mining activities and live and work as head porter in dire living conditions. They said, people who migrate to urban centres normally do not return, but when they do, they often bring diseases to the community. Although they did not specifically mention that these diseases are HIV/AIDs, but some suggested that the diseases could include HIV/AIDs.

The call for reviving processing factories is a good thing; but should be considered in the form of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) with competent private investors, otherwise there is the danger of unproductivity, unsustainability, and non-competitive public enterprises. See Table 6.3 for the summary.

Table 6.3: Summary matrix on farming communities

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Health facility	CHPS does not cater for major cases. Hospital is needed to reduce maternal mortality especially and access treatments of snake bites.	Government and District Assembly	Build hospitals are upgrade CHPS to hospitals to cater for major cases	When there is a hospital with qualified doctors and nurses in the community
Water	No water for irrigation hence reliance on rain-fed farming which engages them for a very short period (i.e. 3 months of rain). This makes them redundant for greater part of the year.	Government	Irrigation dam or facility should be built for the community so they can farm all year round.	When there is irrigation dam for their farming activities
Market	No ready markets for farmers to sell their products hence making they produce waste away or sold cheaper.	District Assembly, Assemblyman and Traditional Authorities	Markets should be set up for them	When they have a market for their produce
Road	Access to farming communities and even markets are very deplorable making transportation very expensive.	Government, Member of Parliament	Roads should be built	When the road is repaired or see a new road network
Education	At least Primary to Secondary schools for children to be able to read and write.	Government, Ghana Education Service, NGOs and District Chief Executive	Build schools and engage the youth who have graduated from school but not employed to teach the school children	When schools are built in the community and their children attend and are able to read and write
Employment	They need jobs to have guaranteed income to take care of the family	Government and District Assembly	Farm inputs be provided especially for the cocoa growing areas to have bumper harvests and good prices	When there is guaranteed income as a result of increased food production
Security	Fulani herdsmen are destroying their farms yet cannot confront them hence the need for security	Government, District Assembly and Security agencies	Fulani herdsmen should be restricted from moving to farming areas. They should confine their cattle's to an animal farm.	When the herdsmen are stopped from destroying their farms and property and avoid conflict with them

Communication Network	They need it to be able to make know the prices of products in market centres rather than traveling there to find out.	Network Operators	Networks should be made to reach the communities	When there is network reception in the community
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6.4. SMALL SCALE MINING COMMUNITIES

Two Small Scale Mining communities were visited, namely, Santeng of Talensi District in the Upper East Region and Kofikrom of the Sefwi Akontombra in the Western Region.

The main issues for these communities include Water, Environment, Security, Road and Education.

According to them, the mining activities have resulted in pollution of water bodies and the destruction of farmlands which have now been rendered barren. In terms of security, they mentioned that most of those engaged in the mining activities were non-Ghanaian nationals who often or even assault them when confronted with the issue of compensation. They therefore wanted protection from these foreigners. Looking at the danger of the mining activities, the members were asking for alternative employment avenues. In terms of road network, they also mentioned that a good road network was needed to enable their sick and pregnant women to obtain access the hospital, as was recorded in Santeng. Summary is shown in Table 5.4.

On employment, it was indicated since there is neither trade nor farming activities in these communities. The youth therefore resort to social vices and illegal mining. They therefore suggested that government should create jobs in the communities, grant credit facility or loans to women especially to start up their businesses or expand them to enable them take care of their families.

In terms of education, it was considered very important for their development and the development of the nation. Indeed, it was said to be “*the foundation for individual and national development*” in Kofikrom during the consultations. Therefore, the communities suggested that schools be built, furnished with modern computer laboratory and ICT centers as well as library stocked with books. See Table 6.4 for summary.

Table 6.4: Summary matrix for Small scale mining communities

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Education	It is important because it is the foundation for individual and national development	Government, NGOs, Member of Parliament and Action Aid	There should be schools built with ICT centres and well stocked libraries	When there are schools with modern facilities in the community for their children
Security	To protect the youth from engaging in illegal mining because they risk dying and also protect the community members from foreigners who engage in the mining activities	Government and District Assembly	There should be a police post in the community to monitor activities of the youth and foreigners	When there is police post in the community
Employment	There is no trade or farming activities in the communities hence resort to social vices and illegal mining	Government and NGOs	Microfinance for women especially to engage in trade and to take care of family	When there is money for them to start or expand their businesses
Road	For easy access to town and to enable them send their sick and pregnant women to hospital	Government and District Assembly and Member of Parliament	Build roads and rehabilitate old ones.	When there are new roads in town
Water	Their water bodies are polluted because of the mining activities hence the need for potable water to keep them healthy	NGOs and District Assembly	Pipe-borne water be extended to the communities or boreholes	When there are enough boreholes and pipe borne water
Environment	The mining is destroying their land and they cannot even farm anymore	Government, District Assembly, Member of Parliament, Traditional Authorities	There should be education of environmental degradation	When the environment is protected from indiscriminate mining and also re-afforestation is being done

6.5 COMMUNITY IN A CONFLICT AREA

Gbetmunpaak of Bunkpurugu in the Northern Region of Ghana was visited. In that community, Unity, Peace and Security came up as critical issues. According to them, conflict was a waste of time and resources. It was reiterated that without peace, members of the community cannot work on farms and live in harmony. They therefore suggested that Education about peace and presence of security would be the means to maintain peace and unity. Besides that Justice and transparency were also identified as means of ensuring peace and security.

Food security was also mentioned as an issue of importance to the community. According to them it is important to have food all year round. However, being in the savannah area where the rainfall pattern is unpredictable, it is suggested that an irrigation facility is critical in achieving food security. Besides an irrigation facility, they suggested that storage facilities be provided for the community. This will ensure that farmers can produce more and preserve some for the lean seasons. They also requested for farm inputs like tractors and high yielding seeds as well as fertilizers to improve upon their farming activities.

The community also suggested that potable water be provided for them to reduce inconveniences, as they have to travel to nearby communities for potable water. This will also help reduce the spread of water borne diseases.

Fuel wood was mentioned as critical to the community which is facing acute fuel wood shortage. It was revealed women have travel long distances and spend a lot time in search of firewood. Education was also considered important to secure the future of the children. See Table 6.5 for summary matrix.

Table 6.5: Summary matrix for conflict area community

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Unity, Peace and Security	Because conflict wastes time and resources. Without peace members of the community cannot work on farms.	Security agencies, Government and District Assembly	Education about peace and presence of security. Justice and transparency	When there is lasting peace and security and people live in harmony in the community. When they are free to go about their businesses as and when they want.
Food Security	To have food all year round to feed on and sell surpluses because no food, no life.	Ministry of Food and Agriculture, DCE and Chiefs	Irrigation facility, farm inputs and storage facilities to be provided for community	When there is enough food all year round and even surplus to share with other parts of the nation

Energy (Fuel Wood)	Women suffer to collect firewood from very far off places.			When our mothers and sisters do not have to travel long distances to fetch firewood
Education	To secure a good future for their children	Ghana Education Service	Build schools and bring qualified teachers	When their children attend as far as tertiary level
Potable Water	To prevent sicknesses associated with drinking unclean water and to reduce inconvenience, i.e. going to a different community to fetch water.	NGOs, District Assembly, Member of Parliament and Chiefs.	Boreholes to be provided for community	When they do not have to travel long distances to get potable water

ANNEX 6

ANNEX 6.1: DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENT

Ghana Post 2015 Development Agenda Discussions Community Level Focus Group Report Template 2013

Region: District: Community: Group No:
Group Size: M/F:

WHAT?

1. What is important for any person (woman, man, boy and girl) in this country/community to live well? And why?		
Issue	Why	Tally M/F

2. Are there people who you think are not living well in this community at all?	
Yes Tally:	No Tally:

N o:	For those who said Yes, who are the people who are not living well?	What do they need?

3. How many of you think your lives are better, worse or the same over the past year? (Eg Comparing 2012 with 2011) Each group should provide explanations for their choice.					
Better Tally:		Worse Tally:		Same Tally:	
Male:	Female:	Male:	Female:	Male:	Female:
Why do you think it is better?		Why do you think it is worse?		Why do you think it is the same?	

4. Are there community traditions/activities that you think have helped to ensure that community members are living in harmony and peacefully that should be protected?		
No:	Tradition/Activity	Tally M/F

WHY?

5. What are the main reasons why some people do not live well in this community and why? (Refer to Question 2 - the list of people not living well)	
No.	Main Reasons and Why?

6. What will be needed for future generations to live well? Why?			
No:	What is needed?	Tally M/F	Why?

7. Is the gap between those living well and those who are not living well growing? narrowing? or the same and why?		
Growing Tally	Narrowing Tally	Same?
Why?	Why?	Why?

8. Do you think that from what you have seen/observed over the past year, those who are not living well can catch up with those who are doing well? If Yes How? and if No Why?					
Yes Tally:	Male:	Female:	No Tally:	Male:	Female:
If Yes How?			If No Why?		

WHO?

9. Who needs to help for those not living well to catch up with those living well in the community?	

HOW?

10. How should the actors identified achieve the desired change?	
11. How will you know when you have achieved the change or what method will you use to know you have achieved it? (Probe to identify outcome indicators in addition to any output indicators they might mention)	

ANNEX 6.2: SPECIAL VALIDATION QUESTIONS REPORTING TEMPLATE

GHANA POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA DISCUSSIONS SPECIAL GROUP VALIDATION QUESTIONS SPECIAL GROUP:

1. What issues/concerns would your group want (the government, development agencies and international groups) to focus on (Post 2015) and Why?	
No:	ISSUE (Please list and tally responses)

2. How can these issues be addressed or tackled satisfactorily?	
Issue No:	How can the issue be addressed? (Mention issue as listed in 1 & then write responses, also probe whether they consider self-initiative as an option)

3. Who should take the lead in addressing these issues and why?		
Issue No:	Who should take the Lead and why? (<i>Mentions issues as listed in 1 & then write down who they think should lead, why and tally responses</i>)	Tally

4. When (Time Period) should these issues be addressed?		
Issue No:	Time Frame? (Please list issues and then tally)	Tally

ANNEX 6.3: FACILITATORS GUIDE

QUESTION TYPE	QUESTIONS/CONTENT	GUIDING NOTES
WHAT?	11. What is important for any person (woman, man, boy and girl) in this country/community to live well? And why?	For the why; Probe to get specifics on the responses (for example, if education is mentioned, try to find out what type, what level, etc.; if health what is the expectation regarding health or their idea of good health (system))
	12. Are there people who you think are not living well in this community at all? Who are they and what do they need?	Use the question below to probe into why these people do not live well. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the primary reason you think they are not living well?
	13. How many of you think your lives are better, worse or same over the past year? (Comparing 2012 to 2011)	Tally and get each sub-group to provide an explanation on their choice of option.
	14. Are there community traditions or activities that you think have helped to ensure that community members are living well and peacefully that need to be protected?	Please get them to list the traditions or activities.
WHY?	15. What are the main reasons why some people do not live well in this community and why?	
	16. What will be needed for future generations to live well and why?	
	17. Is the gap between those living well and those who are not living well growing/same/narrowing? Why?	Please tally and capture number of group members who indicate growing, same or narrowing.
	18. Do you think that from what you have seen/observed over the past year, those who are not living well can catch up with those who are doing well? Why?	Tally the initial Yes or No responses and probe why for both Yes and No
WHO?	19. Who needs to help for those not living well to catch up with those living well in the community?	Responses should be limited to top 3. They can vote by show of hands to indicate priorities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who else can help, and what should they do? E.g. (individuals, community groups, district assemblies, NGOs, Private Sector, Financial Institutions, international organizations)
HOW?	20. What approaches should the actors identified earlier use to ensure that those not living well catch up with those living well in your community?	Please list actors mentioned previously to help FG members respond.
WHEN?	11. How will you know when you have achieved the change or what method will you use to know you have achieved it?	

ANNEX 6.4: FINAL SCHEDULE, GROUPINGS AND VEHICLES ASSIGNED.

SERIAL #	REGION	DISTRICT	TYPE OF COMMUNITY TO BE VISITED	DATE (2013)	TEAM NO.	TEAM LEADER AND MEMBERS	VEHICLES
1	Western	Sefwi Akontonbra	Small Scale Mining/land degradation	Feb 4,	1	Mr. Adjei-Fosu (Ldr)	NDPC
2	Ashanti	Sekyere Afram Plains	Farming	Feb 6,		Mr. Bright Owusu Gyasi Mr. Nana Yaw Adutwum	
3	Eastern	Afram Plains	Remote / Fishing	Feb 8,			
4	Upper West	Wa East	Flood Prone /Farming	Feb 4,	2	Dr. Mensa-Bonsu (Ldr)	IOM
5	Ashanti	KMA	Urban Slum	Feb 6,		Ms. Kazumi Nakamura Mr. Farouk Anderson	
6	Brong Ahafo	Sene East	Fishing	Feb 8,			
7	Central	Upper Denkyira West	Farming	Feb 4,	3	Dr. Grace Bediako (Ldr)	UNFPA/ WHO???
8	Western	SAEMA	Urban Slum	Feb 6,		Ms. Naa D. Tetteh Ms. Georgina Eyeson	
9	Central	Komenda	Fishing	Feb 8,			
10	Gt Accra	AMA	Urban Slum	Feb 11,			
11	Upper East	Nabdam	Small Scale Mining/ flood prone	Feb 4,	4	UNICEF (Ldr)	UNICEF
12	Northern	Bunkpurugu Yunyoo	Farming	Feb 6,		Ms. Mariam Salifu Ms. Myra Togobo	
13	Volta	Krachi West	Farming	Feb 4,	5	Mr. Edem Senanu (Ldr)	UNDP
14	Volta	Keta Municipal	Fishing/Coastal	Feb 6,		Pa Lamin Beyai Mr. Salassie D'Almeria	
15	Gt Accra	Dangme East	Salt winning and Fishing	Feb 8,		Ms. Jasmyn Okai	

ANNEX 6.5: STRATEGY

GHANA POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA **COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION STRATEGY**

1.0 TEAM COMPOSITION AND DEPLOYMENT

Five (5) teams will be established comprising of:

- (i) Three (3) facilitators from the technical team/other key stakeholders
- (ii) One (1) District Assembly Officer who will also be responsible for preparatory activities
- (iii) One (1) vehicle driver

Each team will be responsible for:

- (i) Covering three (3) communities each.
- (ii) Conducting community focus group discussions for one (1) day in each community
- (iii) Spending preferably not more than four (4) hours i.e. 8 – 12 pm/1 – 5pm for discussions on each day.
- (iv) Spending a maximum of eight (8) days including travelling days to complete focus group discussions for the three (3) assigned communities.

Team members will be required to participate in pre-execution training on the focus group discussion guide and documentation formats.

2.0 COMMUNITY ENTRY AND MOBLIZATION

The technical team/coordinator will be required to:

- b. Contact and inform the targeted districts about the Post 2015 Development Agenda discussions and the selection of their District and the specific Community to conduct this local-level exercise through a formal letter to the District Coordinating Director (DCD). (The DCDs are the technical heads and just in case any DCE changes will be implemented, it is safer to deal with DCDs to guarantee results)
- c. Through the respective District Coordinating Director, request (i) assistance specifically for the District Community Development or any other relevant Officer to pay an initial visit to the community and to inform the traditional and opinion leaders about the intended activity as well as proposed dates, facilitate the community to select 36 representatives and provide feedback to the team. (NB: Thirty (30) is the minimum number required for statistically significant representation. The breakdown for the 36 is provided below)
- d. Ensure that the formal letter also requests that the identified officer should support the team in conducting the community level discussions during the scheduled period.

- e. Indicate the need for three (3) locals who speak English to be identified in each community to support the process.
- f. Request that the community randomly selects thirty six (36) representatives made up of six (6) women, six (6) men, six (6) male youth, six (6) female youth, six (6) other vulnerable/challenged community members and six (6) traditional/opinion leaders to be involved in the FGDs for two (2) days.
- g. Reflect the exact dates and times for these discussions as well as who should be involved as outlined.
- h. Move to the selected communities on the scheduled dates if the community confirms the suitability of the dates or re-schedule the meetings based on the feedback obtained.
- i. Pick up the assigned District Officer en-route to the community if the Officer does not have the means to get there earlier or if there is need for directions to get to the location.

3.0 ENGAGEMENT AND FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION METHODOLOGY

Once the team arrives at the community location and meets with community members it should conduct introductions and then randomly select:

- (v) Two (2) persons out of the six (6) identified representatives for each of the six (6) outlined groups specifically men, women, male youth, female youth, vulnerable/challenged members and traditional/opinion leaders and share them into three (3) groups of twelve (12) persons each to hold focus group discussions with one (1) facilitator and one (1) interpreter.
- (vi) Conduct a discussion on the Post 2015 Development Agenda for a maximum of three (3) hours (2.5 hours is possible based on the pre-test) using the Community Focus Group Reporting Format and switch to the Special Group Validation Questions for a maximum of forty five (45) minutes. Then meet in a plenary session for closing remarks, closing prayer and a group photograph for the last fifteen (15) minutes.
- (vii) Switching to the special group validation session which is to validate and ensure that the special needs, concerns or expectations of these identified groups have been captured, requires re-organizing participants who are present into exclusive/special groups namely (women only, men only, youth only, vulnerable group only and to identify any new and relevant areas for attention.

4.0 DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING

Group facilitators will be required to:

- (i) Utilize the approved forms and formats to capture the discussion and responses from group members.
- (ii) Capture names and contact details of Focus Group Discussants on the contact list form.

- (iii) Collect information on the community profile from the District Officer.
- (iv) Utilize digital voice recorders to capture the various group discussions
- (v) Submit appropriately filled and completed forms and formats to the coordinator.

The data will be submitted to a rapporteur:

- (i) For collation, analysis and report drafting.
- (ii) A draft FGD report will be submitted within two (2) weeks.
- (iii) Comments on the draft report once submitted will be expected within one (1) week
- (iv) The draft report will be finalized based on comments provided within three (3) days.

CHAPTER SEVEN: CONSULTATIONS WITH PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

7.0 INTRODUCTION

The main objectives of the workshop were to:

- Engage the various categories of informed stakeholders as required by the guidelines for this consultation, and
- Solicit their contributions so as to have a balanced Ghana report on the *World We Want*.

7.1 PARTICIPATION

To this end, about 100 participants representing all target stakeholders were invited to the workshop. However, 86 turned up representing the Government Agencies, Private Sector, Media, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Scientific and Research Community/Academia, and the Development Partners (DPs). Staff of NDPC and the UN system supported the task team as facilitators for the event.

7.2 ORGANISATION

The consultations, held at the NDPC were organized in two main sessions:

- The Formal Opening session,
- The Technical Session

7.2.1 Opening Session

The opening session attended by the media was to boost the awareness creation of the consultation process one more time and to whip up interest in the entire process among all stakeholders (present and elsewhere). In her remarks, the UN Resident Coordinator, Ms Ruby Sandhu-Rojon, highlighted the objective behind the consultation process. Among other things, she mentioned the fact that the consultation was part of a wider process in fashioning out a successor to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which has a target date of 2015 and also mentioned the progress Ghana and Africa was making in the MDGs (See full Text in Annex A).

On her part, Dr. Regina O. Adutwum, Director-General of the National Development Planning Commission, runs the participants through series of activities that had been embarked upon since the inception of the consultation process. She mentioned the launch of the consultation in Tamale, in November 2012, the Community Focus Group Discussion, and the series of Media engagements including Television and Radio programmes and crowned it up with the objective of the day's workshop (See full Text in Annex B).

The remarks by the UN Resident Coordinator and the Director-General of NDPC was followed by interaction with the press session where the media were given the opportunity to seek further information and clarifications on the subject. Ms Ruby

Sandhu-Rojon and Dr. Regina O. Adutwum ably responded to several questions. Among them were the results of the consultations thus far, and the next steps. It was mentioned that, issues such as Employment, Education, Health, Water and Infrastructure were consistently emerging during the rounds of consultations carried out. On the next steps, the media were informed of the validation workshop, which comes off on the 26 March 2013.

7.2.2. Technical Session

The technical session began with organizing participants into syndicate groups based on the category of stakeholders they represented. The various syndicate groups selected their Chairpersons and Rapporteurs and a Facilitator was assigned each group. Guiding questions and Reporting Templates (See Annex C and D respectively) were shared among the groups for their discussion and reporting. The technical session was climaxed with a plenary, where each group reported the outcome of their discussions. The responses by each stakeholder group are outlined.

7.3. OUTCOME OF STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSIONS

7.3.1. Private Sector

The private sector discussions engaged personnel from the Private Enterprises Foundation (PEF), Ghana Employers Association (GEA), Ghana National Association of Farmers and Fishermen (GNAFF) and Ghana Federation of Agricultural Producers (GFAP).

The discussion among this group elicited the following issues: Efficient and sustainable agriculture and industry; and the recognition of the importance of the private sector in development.

Concerning the issue of efficient and sustainable agriculture and industry, the availability of food must match the prices of food that will earn farmers a decent income. Issues of subsidies for farm input to increase food production also remain while lack of irrigation facilities was also mentioned. Solutions ascribed to this issue included creating an enabling environment such as improving bureaucratic processes, post-harvest lost management, feeder roads, availability of credit, and reform in agriculture.

In terms of the recognition of the importance of the private sector in development, it was considered a vital issue because the private sector can create more jobs; and there cannot be development without the private sector engagement and involvement. In view of that, it was suggested that improvement in registration of businesses processes; reforming the public sector to enhance competitiveness by way of designing improved tax regimes and streamlining interest rates; overhaul of the railway system; adequate provision of utility services; and skills enhancement programmes would improve the situation. See Table 7.1 for summary matrix.

Table 7.1: Summary matrix for Private Sector

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Recognition of the importance of private sector in development	<p>Private sector can create jobs especially for the youth;</p> <p>Development cannot occur without private sector;</p> <p>It should get more involved in development and receive support</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Private Sector themselves (because commitment of private sector cannot be imposed. In order to ensure competitiveness, private sector must continue improving the business environment); 2. Government institutions/MDAs (Because private sector cannot do it alone. Government must collaborate with private sector) 	<p>Through creating an enabling environment for private sector. For instance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improving bureaucratic process (i.e. registration of businesses) ▪ Reform in public sector to enhance competitiveness (i.e. designing new tax, interest rate regimes) ▪ A complete overhaul of railway system ▪ Improving provision of utility especially energy and water ▪ Skills enhancement programme (labour market information/skills database, training) 	2014
Efficient and sustainable agriculture and industry needed	Detailed issues related to above are: food security and food pricing, income for farmers, availability of subsidized agricultural inputs including fertilisers and the increase crop production in the dry season (drought management)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Farmers based organisation and workers themselves (because the issues concern themselves. 2. MOFA (because it is their responsibility) 3. Financial Institutions including micro finance network and banks (because farmers cannot improve yields without receiving support from them. They must work together) 	<p>Through creating an enabling environment. For instance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improving bureaucratic process ▪ Improving feeder roads ▪ Improving irrigation ▪ Improving post-harvest loss management (especially marketing and warehouse and processing) ▪ Improving credit availability ▪ Reform in agriculture land administration 	2014

7.3.2. Media

Media personnel were engaged through stakeholder consultations where guiding questions were used to facilitate discussion among them. Media personnel engaged for this discussion was from both the Electronic and Print media. The Media houses represented include Ghana Television News, Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio, Ghanaian Times, Daily Graphic and Information Services Department.

Issues that emerged from the discussion with the media include polarisation of the media; political ownership; censorship; training of media personnel; orientation and supervision; respect for the media as a profession; security for the media; and media targeting. For Polarisation of the Media, it was discussed that media houses and personnel are often seen to be bias towards certain agenda thereby affecting their objectivity. These biases could be towards a religious sect, political party, ethnicity and even social relations. A trend of this nature could only threaten the unity and cohesion of the nation therefore was considered very important to be addressed.

In terms of political ownership, the group mentioned that the current trend of politicians owning press houses and using these press houses for their political agenda pose a threat to the peace and security of the nation. It was mentioned that such politicians use their media houses to incense the public and heighten tensions when they should be using the platform to educate, inform and entertain the public. It was therefore suggested that laws should be passed to restrict the ownership of media houses by politicians for the sole purpose of promoting such political agendum. With reference to censorship, it was revealed that the rate at which media houses were quick to publish gory stories with images and negative reportage was alarming. It was mentioned that stories of accidents with images were very frequent on our front pages and in the electronic media, as well as stories with potential to promote conflict. These, they stated, had often come about as a result of lack of monitoring of production. The National Media Commission was proposed to be independent and empowered more to ensure censorship in our media to sanitise the media landscape.

Training of Media Personnel has not been too forthcoming and is reflected in the poor handling of sensitive issues. Media houses are not investing in the capacity of their personnel as much as would be required making them unskilled in handling of sensitive issues. More often, these young and inexperienced personnel are rather quick to spill off these sensitive stories in an attempt to gain some recognition thereby jeopardizing the whole nation's peace. Media houses were encouraged to invest in their personnel to curb this anomaly and improve the standards of their reportage.

Besides, there are instances when management of media houses trusts their media personnel to do productions for their press outlets. In some of these cases, the editors are unaware of the stories or news being produced by their media houses and so are not informed of what is being churned out. To some extent, they do not even know what their personnel are up to in the field thereby making them (the Editors) very irresponsible as their media houses and personnel engage in unprofessional activities when there is no supervision. There is therefore the need for Editors to be in charge of their media houses and personnel by ensuring that they are aware of what their media

houses and personnel are producing and engaging in, in order to maintain the highest standard of journalism in the nation.

The respect for the profession has been identified as being under threat in recent times. According to the group, the role of the media as the fourth estate of the nation was being undermined in the sense that the personnel of the profession are treated with contempt and disrespect in discharging their duties. This disrespect for the media is even reflected in the low resource allocation to the media houses; personnel of the profession are even not considered for participation in programmes such as the Post 2015 national consultation. Rather than fully participate, the role of the media is limited to cover the event. They suggested that education on the important role of the media as a very vital arm of the governance structure will go a long way to forestall this trend.

Security for the media had come under the spotlight in recent times when media personnel had been manhandled at events they were supposed to cover. The media personnel felt there was no adequate protection for them and as such, are not able to discharge their duties without fear or favour. They called for improved security for them and their properties.

As far as media targeting was concerned, it was explained that there were instances where media personnel who read or wrote the news on a particular issue were identified in town and confronted by persons who did not take kindly to those issues. Unfortunately, those who confront the media personnel as a result of this are usually not well-informed about the profession to understand that the news was often not the personal views the media personnel, for instance the newscaster. This, according to the media, could be very unnerving and other times embarrassing. Call for more education on the media profession and how it works was considered an important way of halting the media targeting trends. See Table 7.2 for summary matrix.

Table 7.2: Summary matrix for the media

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Polarisation of the media	Media personnel's and houses are affiliated to, or seen to be executing a particular party agenda, making them bias towards a certain quarters of the political landscape rather being objective as required of their profession.	National Media Commission and Media Houses	Education and sanctions for culprits of such polarization.	Immediately
Political ownership of the media	In recent times, we have politicians owning media houses and using these media houses to promulgate their political agenda to the detriment of national cohesion and education.	National Media Commission, the Parliament of Ghana	Law to regulate media ownership by restraining active politicians from owning media houses for the purposes of promoting political agenda.	Immediately
Censorship	Media is quick to put out gory stories with pictures on front pages or even on the television, stories that incense	National Media Commission	National Media Commission should be completely independent	Immediately

	and threaten national unity as well as pornographic materials.	on	and they should check on how they report on issues on accidents, rape and nudity; Monitoring of production.	
Training of Media Personnel	The media houses do not invest in the training and capacity building of their personnel. Therefore, they lack the skills in handling very sensitive issues.	Media Houses	Appropriate training in handling sensitive issues	Immediately
Orientation and Supervision	Management of media houses, especially Editors, should be in charge of what is being produced from their “backyard”. Most of the cases, they are unaware of the news being churned out by their houses and even not aware of what their personnel are up to leading to breakdown of professionalism in the industry.	Media Houses	Editors should be sensitized on what is being reported on.	Immediately
Respect for the Profession	The media should be recognized as the fourth estate of the nation and must be respected for the work they do. They are often treated with contempt even at events where they are there to cover.	Media Houses and National Media Commission	Education for the public on the importance of the media profession and orientation for the media personnel to not engage in activities that will drag the name of the industry into disrepute.	Immediately
Security for the Media	In recent times, media personnel have been frequently manhandled while discharging their duties. There is no protection for the media personnel against such attack on their lives and properties.	Ghana Police Service, Ministry of Information and National Media Commission.	The security services should improve the security of the media personnel.	Immediately
Media Targeting	Media personnel are identified in town and confronted for stories they read in the electronic media, or wrote in the print media. It can be very embarrassing to the personnel.	Media Houses	The populace must be educated to know that most often; stories by the media personnel are not their personal positions but only doing a professional job.	Immediately

7.3.3. Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)

The Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) group include; ABANTU, SEND-GH, IDEG, Curious Minds, CDD-GH, YES-GH, NAP+ GH, Third World Network (TWN) Africa, HelpAge Ghana, GFD. Issues raised among this group’s discussion were Youth Development and Engagement, Educational Reforms, Improve Community Based Healthcare, Social Inclusion Policies for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), Food

Security, Climate Change and Energy Issues and Improve ICT. Youth Development and Engagement was considered an issue because it was noted that, the youth were normally left out in the planning and decision making processes. As a matter of fact, a greater number of the youth are underprivileged. This has serious implications for the future of our nation. Therefore, the capacity of the youth must be built and engaged in the planning and decision making processes. There was another suggestion of establishing youth desks at all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) as well as Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs). Education reform was another issue raised. It was observed that the current education system does not fully equip students and the teaching methods does not also benefit some students especially those with medical disability. These factors make the youth or graduate ill-prepared for the labour market. There was call for educational reforms from Junior High Schools to the Tertiary with enhanced methods of teaching so as to meet the needs of the special student groups.

The call for improved community based health care was based on the need for delivery of health care to be brought to the doorstep of the marginalised in society like the PLHIV & PWDs. The group calls for maternal health must also be taken more seriously. Currently, maternal health is one setback for the nation in terms of MDGs achievement. As a results, it was suggested that, when more health posts were established, and the marginalized in society including PLHIV and PWDs informed of where and how to access health services with well-trained health personnel, the health situation of the nation in general will be improved.

Social Inclusion Policies was advocated for considering the fact that the welfare of Youth especially PWDs, are not prioritised as their health and employment issues are left unattended. To address this situation, policies of Social Inclusion Policies should be advanced and local laws simplified to conform to the UN conventions on the rights of the disabled.

Food security should be improved so that the seasonal food and cash crops will be available at all times of the year. Government should therefore educate crop producers on high yielding seed variety; invest more in food storage while aim to increase production.

Climate change is affecting economic growth in most parts of the country especially farming and fishing communities. Research should be made into the current trends in climatic conditions and their impact factored into national policies. Community members should be trained on preparedness and preventive measures to withstand the negative effects of climate change.

There were also the issue of energy poverty and how they affect tariffs. According to the group, many people are not able to afford the cost of energy supply and are thereby denied access to electricity. It was intimated that reliance on hydroelectric power must be reduced and use be made of other resources and invest better other energy sources such as wind, solar, biogas etc. to make electricity cheaper and affordable.

Finally for the group, improvement in ICT was considered a very critical issue because it has been identified as the modern vehicle to development. Therefore, integration of ICT in educational curriculum at all levels; improving accessibility and utilization of ICT; and putting in place PWD friendly ICT systems were all suggestion of harnessing the benefit of ICT. See Table 7.3 for summary matrix.

Table 7.3: Summary matrix for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Youth Development and engagements (capacity development):	The youth are left out in most development plans and a greater number of the youth are under privileged.	Government (NYA, Ministry of youth and sports)	Establishing of youth desks in MDAs & MMDAs; Strengthening of existing structures; Improving coordination and collaboration; Encouraging the youth to read the youth policy so that they get to know what is it for them. Financing Youth Development in Ghana.	5years
Educational Reforms	The educational system in Ghana does not fully equip students and the teaching methods does not also benefit some class of students especially those with medical conditions.	Government (Ministry of education)	Restructure the educational system from JHS to the tertiary level; the training given must be relevant to the various industries in the country. Identify the forms/ways of learning of the students so that teachers will be trained in all the methods of teaching so that all students can benefit from the system; teachers should also be well equipped with the teaching aids that they will need.	3years
Improve community based health care (in relation to PLHIV)	The delivery of health care must be brought to the doorstep of the marginalised in society like the PLHIV & PWDs; maternal health (PMTCT) must	Government (Ministry of health)	More health posts should be built in these communities; PLHIV must be educated on how and where to access services; personnel sent to these health posts must be trained in service delivery to the marginalised in	3years

	also be taken seriously.		society.	
Social inclusion policies (PWDs):	The welfare of this group of persons is not prioritised; their health, employment among other things is left unattended.	Government (Social protection)	These policies must be advanced; Simplifying our local laws to conform to the UN Convention on the rights of the disabled and ensuring the availability of favorable environment (infrastructure, education, health, employment, etc).	4years
Food security	Food security must be improved so that our seasonal food crops and cash crops will be available at all times of the year.	Government (Ministry of food and agriculture)	Government should educate crop producers on variety; Programs must be implemented that target variety of crops; more investment must be made in the area of food storage while production is also increased	4years
Climate change	Climate change is affecting economic growth in most parts of the country especially farming and fishing communities	Government (EPA)	Research must be conducted into the trend and the impact of these changes so that a national policy can be developed; Train community persons on preparedness and preventive measures	
Energy Issues	Energy Poverty and how they affect the electricity tariffs	Government	Reliance on hydroelectric power must be reduced and rather make use of our other resources and invest better and adequately in them; resources such as wind, solar, biogas etc.	5 -10 years
Improve ICT	ICT is now the backbone for any development especially for the youth	Government (Science and Technology)	Integration of ICT in educational curriculum at all levels; improving accessibility and utilization of ICT; PWDs must also be considered by putting in place PWD friendly ICT systems.	3years

7.3.4. Government Agencies

The Government Agencies comprised persons from the Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs). Institutions represented included Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC), Food and Drugs Authority (FDA), Department of Social Welfare, Ghana Education Trust Fund (GET Fund), Environmental Protection

Agency (EPA), National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), Scholarship Secretariat, Legal Aid Scheme, Commission on Culture, Domestic Violence Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU), Ghana Aids Commission (GAC) and the National Population Council (NPC) among others.

The following issues emerged out of the discussion with the MDA group of stakeholders: Poverty Reduction; Integration of Population Dynamics into the National Development Plans; Access to modern forms of energy in rural areas; Public Accountability and Transparency; Vulnerability and Social Exclusion; Climate Change/Disaster Risk Management; Maximisation of benefits derived from output of natural resources; Access to quality basic education; Access to quality healthcare; Use of traditional knowledge, culture, norms, etc. in addressing issues of development; Poor integration of environmental and energy issues in national planning agenda; Environmental sustainability; Unemployment; Access to justice for poor and vulnerable; Macro-economic stability; Macro-economic stability; and Lack of National Long Term Plan/Vision.

In terms of Poverty Reduction, it was said that the gap between the rich and the poor were widening. It was further said that even though the MDG 1 of halving extreme poverty had been achieved ahead of target time, disparities exist between regions. The suggestion is to re-target poverty interventions as possible strategies to reduce poverty in the nation beyond 2015. The dynamics of population growth was also considered a very critical issue in the fight against poverty. Population dynamics was referred to as the various segments or structure of the population such as the youth, the aged, the vulnerable, the unemployed etc. and the rate at which they were growing.

Access to modern form of energy in rural areas was justified by the erratic power outages that have plagued the nation in recent times. Moreover, rural folks should be connected to the national grid. They called for modern forms of energy especially for the rural folks and to forestall the erratic power disruptions. The modern forms of energy suggested include, wind and solar energy. Perception of corruption continue to increase among the populace, poor review of monitoring and evaluation of development interventions and lack of clear cut grievance procedure for poor quality of services were some of the reasons why the group felt Public Accountability and Transparency were issues necessary for development in post 2015. In view of that, strengthening public institutions and public education or awareness creation on the importance of public accountability were some of the possible remedies.

The vulnerable and the excluded were considered the poorest of the poor. These people, according to the group, do not get the opportunity to voice their grievances. They are

often excluded in decision making and planning processes, thereby leaving their needs unattended. The need for them to be included in the planning and decision making processes were recommended as possible way of addressing their concerns.

Climate change and Disaster Management was considered an issue because the effects of climate change and disaster could not be over-emphasised. Instances of flooding as a result of rising sea levels and heavy rainfall patterns as well as its attendant disaster were highlighted during the discussion. The group called for increased funding to the National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO) and extensive research into the changing trend of climatic conditions.

Maximisation of benefit derived from the output of Natural Resources extraction. According to the group, there was the need for the benefits of natural resources, especially the recent oil and gas discovery, to be maximized to the fullest. In most cases these natural resources businesses are controlled by expatriates who do not transfer their technology and knowledge to the nationals. The passage of the Local Content bill; capacity building of institutions that manage natural resources and increase of Government shares in the exploitation and production of mineral resources are steps in the right direction to addressing this issue. Access to quality basic education and health care services also came to the fore. Lack of infrastructure, logistics and qualified teachers at the basic levels all affect the quality of education. In terms of healthcare services, lack of research into common diseases populace and challenges associated with training of health care providers were attributed to the low quality of healthcare services. In this regard, provision of educational infrastructure and logistics; attractive remuneration for qualified teachers in deprived areas are among the recommended strategies to address the quality concerns in education. Research into common diseases, training of healthcare providers and practice of preventive health were suggested for improving quality healthcare services.

In the current dispensation where ICT, Science and Technology are being promoted as means to development, indigenous traditional knowledge and culture have been relegated to the background. The group advocated for the promotion of these knowledge to complement the use of ICT, Science and Technology. Integration of Environment, including sanitation, waste management and climate change and energy issues into the national planning and budgeting processes was also mentioned. The concern is that, Environment and Energy issues not mainstreamed in the planning process, do not attract budgetary allocation and therefore not implemented. The rate at which all forms of surface mining were done across the country, illegal mining and depletion of the environment were of concern to the group. It was therefore considered crucial for the land use policy to be implemented, cost-benefit analyses of mining areas

be done and mining laws to be enforced to forestall the situation. Sanitation issues also featured prominently in the discussions.

On the issue of unemployment, it was observed that schools were churning out graduates in their numbers without jobs to absorb them. It was suggested that people with skills training be empowered to set up their own businesses. Further, growing of manufacturing plants and industries through investments and creating the enabling environment for private sector to create jobs were some of the solutions proposed to curb the unemployment situation. Access to justice for the poor and vulnerable was also identified. It was mentioned that overcrowding in the courts and the high cost of justice makes this service unaffordable to the poor. This often leads to prolong detention in police custody for years of people who cannot afford the services of a lawyer. Some of the recommendations include to; strengthen legal institutions to be able to reach vulnerable groups; provide logistics and infrastructure for courts and entire judicial system; educate vulnerable groups on their rights to justice; and strengthen Legal Aid Scheme.

Macro-Economic Stability, according to the group, was necessary for any form of development. The implications for a stabilized currency, reduction in inflation rate and interest rates affect the development of the nation. Therefore it was suggested that macro-economic stability be maintained and government spending be reduced to facilitate development. Another concern is Lack of Long Term Vision or Plan. Ghana has only a medium term “thinking cycle” which was not prudent for planning and effective development. It was suggested that a long term plan of a minimum of 25 years be developed out of which each ruling government would derive its manifesto for priority and implementation in the medium term.

With regards to housing for the Urban Population, it was postulated that workers of government agencies were all trying to build their own homes because of inconveniences associated with renting a house (i.e. problem with landlords). The solution suggested was that government should build affordable housing in urban centres for government officials. See Table 7.4 for summary matrix.

Table 7.4: Summary matrix for Government Agencies

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Poverty Reduction	Because the gap between rich and poor continues to widen. Non-targeting of the poor is our bane. Though we have achieved the MDG1, it is not reflective of the reality on the ground hence the need for re-targeting.	National Development Planning Commission; Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning	Review, readjust and retarget interventions; non-politicisation of poverty reduction interventions	10 years
Integration of	For effective national	National	Population	10 years

Population dynamics into National Development Plan	planning. When population growth does not match economic growth, there is poverty gap hence the need for population control to maximize benefit of economic growth.	Population Council; National Development Planning Commission; Ghana Statistical Service	dynamics and distributions should be factored into planning agendas especially at the District Assembly level	
Access to modern forms of energy in rural areas	There is low access to modern form of energy in the rural and urban areas.	Ministry of Energy; Energy Commission	Research; Development of master plan for improved energy use	10 years
Public Accountability and Transparency	Perception of corruption continues to increase among the populace. Poor review of our monitoring and evaluation of development interventions. No grievance procedure of poor services and who holds who accountable for what? etc. Effective and efficient leadership at all levels.	Office of the President; CHRAJ; Judiciary; Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development; General Public	Strengthening of public institutions (resources, capacity building for employees, etc.); Public education/awareness creation on importance of public accountability	3 years
Vulnerability and Social Exclusion	There are people who are the poorest of the poor, they have no voice in decision making so they have to be heard for their issues to be addressed. Access to justice for the poor and vulnerable.	Ministry of Gender, Social Protection and Child Services; Department of Social Welfare	Retarget vulnerable groups	10 years
Climate Change/ Disaster Risk Management	Flooding, disaster	NADMO; Ministry of Interior	Research into extent and trends of change from which planning and implementation can be done; Increase funding for disaster management	10 years
Maximisation of benefits derived from output of natural resources	Benefit derived by country is low given the vast distribution of minerals and other natural resources in the country. If Government and Ghanaians are not involved in the process to ensure vigilance and knowledge transfer.	Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources; Parliament of Ghana	Passage and Implementation of Local Content Bill; Capacity building for institutions who manage natural resources; Government should increase its shares in exploitation and production of mineral resources	5 years
Access to quality basic education	Lack of infrastructure, logistics and qualified teachers at the basic levels	Ministry of Education; Ghana Education Service	Attractive remuneration for teachers; Provision of educational logistics and infrastructure	10 years

Access to quality healthcare	Quality health care has become the preserve of the rich who are able to afford it at private hospitals. But the public ones to take care of the poor are lacking quality healthcare services.	Ministry of Health; Ghana Health Service	More research into common diseases affecting populace; training of healthcare providers; availability of quality health care systems, infrastructure, resources and governance; practice preventive healthcare	15 years
Use of traditional knowledge, culture, norms, etc. in addressing issues of development and culture	How do we use traditional knowledge to solve our problems in complementing the use of ICT or Science & Technology in solving issues. Time management culture to be improved for development.	Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts; Ministry of Chieftaincy and Traditional Affairs		5 years
Poor integration of environmental and energy issues in national planning and Budgeting Process	Once these are not mainstreamed in our plans, it will not be budgeted for, and not picked up in the monitoring and evaluation process making it lost in the entire process.	Ministry of Energy; Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning; National Development Planning Commission	Allocate more funds for research; Effective monitoring	5 years
Environmental sustainability including Sanitation		Ministry of Lands and Forestry; Environmental Protection Agency	Implementation of Land Use Policy; Cost-Benefit Analyses of mining areas occupied by forests; Enforcement of mining laws	15 years
Unemployment	Schools are churning out graduates and skills trained personnel's yet no employment for them	Ministry of Justice; Attorney General's Department; CHRAJ; Legal Aid Scheme	Empower people with technical skills to set up their own businesses; Private sector should create jobs; Growing of manufacturing industries through investment	5 years
Access to justice for poor and vulnerable	Crowding in our courts, and cost of justice making it a luxury for the rich. The poor are not able to afford justice. People are in police custody for years because they cannot	Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning	Strengthen legal institutions to be able to reach vulnerable groups; provision of logistics and	10 years

	have access to a lawyer to have a day in court.		infrastructure for courts/ entire judicial system; education of vulnerable groups on their rights to justice; strengthening of Legal Aid Scheme	
Macro-economic stability	Inflation, exchange rates and its implication for the whole economy and so forth is necessary for development	Ministry of Employment; NYEP; Office of the President	Government should reduce overspending	10 years
Lack of National Long Term Plan/Vision	No targeted long term plan hence not focused in where we want to be in e.g. 50 years' time	Parliament of Ghana, NDPC	De-politicise the NDPC, NDPC to be made independent. Each ruling government should be obliged to draw its manifesto from the Long Term Plan, even though the strategies can differ as well as priority areas so that cumulatively, that can be achieved in the 50 years.	
Housing in the Urban Population	Workers of government agencies are all trying to build their own homes because of inconveniences associated with renting a house (i.e. problem with landlords). The result is that they are building at the outskirts of the urban centres, which means they have to travel long distances to reach their offices. They are often exhausted by the time they get to the office thereby affecting productivity.	Ministry of Work and Housing	Government should provide affordable housing in urban centres for government workers.	5 years

7.3.5. Academia and Research Institutions

This group of stakeholders comprised representatives from the Academia, Think Tanks, Research and Development Institutions. Issues of concern to this group of stakeholders were: Emphasis on tertiary education and the quality of tertiary education; emphasis on research and development; absorption of research output; data management, storage and packaging and available to policy makers; improved technology and waste management to address sanitation condition; and effective laboratories.

In terms of emphasis on tertiary education and its quality, the group was of the view that the high level of unemployment is the result of low emphasis on tertiary education and its quality. They further explained that in recent times, there have been many tertiary institutions that are unable to churn out quality graduates partly because of inadequate resources and investment. According to them, emphasis on quality tertiary education will address the unemployment situation in the country and also increase productivity.

Emphasis on Research and Development was also of concern to them. According to them, there are research methods that are undertaken to reduce poverty. As a result, investment should be made into research and development to adequately resource research institutions to carry out very credible and useful researches, which should be needed in the development effort of reducing poverty.

Even with less investment in research and development, academia and research institutions have managed to conduct various researches that would be very useful in development planning and policy formulation. However, these research findings go unutilized. They mentioned further that, elsewhere in the world, research findings were the basis for development planning and policy formulation but not the case for our part of the world. They suggested that development providers and policy makers make use of existing research findings and studies to encourage more research within the scientific and technical community.

Another issue of concern to them is data management, storage and packaging. According to them, there is lack of adequate logistics and equipment to better manage data. Effective and efficient data management, storage and packaging require more sophisticated equipment and capacity. They further mentioned that when data is not well managed, stored properly and packaged well, it becomes unattractive to use in any meaningful way. They emphasized that it was necessary for policy makers to access a well-managed, stored and packaged database for informed policy formulation and programming therefore the need to invest in building capacity for data management in terms of human resource and equipment or logistics.

The group further identified that sanitation as a major issue of concern. They intimated that poor sanitation leads to spread of diseases, which in turn affects a great proportion of the labour force and resulting in low productivity. Improved technology and waste management was needed to curb the sanitation menace.

Last but not the least, the group called for more effective laboratories as a concern for them. According to them, effective laboratories are needed to facilitate access to relevant data. They therefore suggested that all laboratories should be resourced to conform to ISO standards as a means of enhancing their effectiveness. See Table 7.5 for summary matrix.

Table 7.5: Summary matrix for Academia and Research Institutions

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Emphasis on tertiary education and the quality of tertiary education	<p>Tertiary Education-route to reduce unemployment of graduates</p> <p>Increased productivity</p> <p>Government does not provide avenues to employ graduates</p>	Government	<p>All issues should be mainstreamed into the development agenda</p> <p>There should be specific indicators to tackle each issue</p> <p>For data management there should be a central database</p>	Proportion of graduates employed a year after completing school
Emphasis on Research & Development	Research & Development- Research methods are undertaken to reduce poverty therefore needs emphasis	Government		Proportion of national budget that goes into Research & Development
Absorption of Research output	Policy makers can use research to develop plans	Government		
Data Management, storage and packaging; making it available for policy makers	Logistics and sophisticated databases are needed to enhance more informed decisions and	Government		

	policies.			
Sanitation- Improve technology and waste management	Sanitation- Because it cuts across all areas; prevents diseases; reduces proportion of labour force that falls and thus increases productivity	Government		Volume of waste generated
There should be more effective laboratories	Laboratories- Because relevant data is obtained from these facilities	Government		All laboratories should conform to the ISO standard

7.3.6. Development Partners (DPs)

The views of the development partners were also sought. Present at the stakeholder meeting were representatives of UNDP/RCO, GIZ-Gh, UNIDO, UNICEF, UNFPA and UN Women. The issue of pertinence to this group included: Health, especially HIV/AIDS and Maternal Mortality; Water and Sanitation; Illegal Mining; Potable Water; Education especially Polytechnics and ICT; Energy (Solar and Wind); and Good Governance, particularly Stability, Vulnerability and Accountability. Health was considered an important issue especially now that Ghana has attained the middle-income status while its health indicators are at the level of least developed Countries. This is because the neglect of health can easily over-turn the gains of the economic prosperity in terms of the middle-income status attainment. In other words, even though Ghana is now a middle-income country, issues of health, especially HIV/AIDS and Maternal Mortality, still plagues the nation. There is often shortage of Anti-Retroviral Drugs. It was recommended that Monitoring and Evaluation be improved and Ghanaian Pharmaceuticals be granted the license to produce these drugs and to make them more affordable for the population.

Water and sanitation was also highlighted because of the rate of indiscriminate disposal of waste and loitering and littering on streets especially in cities. This is mainly the result of negative mindset of people towards sanitation as most people assume they have to litter to create employment for others in cleaning it up. It was therefore suggested that the public be educated to change their mindset and attitude towards sanitation. They also called for innovative waste management facilities for proper disposal of waste. Illegal mining was considered a grave concern with the recent spate of illegal and surface mining taking place all over the country. Also of more concern is the fact that most of those engaged in it were foreigners especially from China who were wielding so much authority and intimidating the local residents. The young residents who attempt

engaging in this sort of mining end up being trapped in the belly of the earth in most cases, losing their lives in the process. Besides the grave environmental consequences of illegal mining, the loss of lives and intimidation of foreigners were of much more concern to this group of stakeholders. They therefore suggested local authorities and districts to monitor and manage the activities of illegal mining to curb the negative trend.

Potable water was also highlighted because of the poor water management system in the nation. It was mentioned that the water demand in the nation is not met the supply mainly as a result of illegal tapping and low investment in the water treatment and distribution. Improvement in the management of water distribution system would go a long way to improve our water system. Education, especially ICT and Polytechnics, came up strongly in the discussions. The argument was that ICT is very crucial for quality education. Moreover, there is huge skills shortage in the nation as evident by the presence of so many mining and manufacturing companies, which need staff while Ghanaians cannot fill the vacancies due to lack of requisite skills. Therefore, emphasis on Polytechnic education, and the attendant skills training may be the solution. However, in recent times, most Polytechnics are clamoring to be upgraded to offer degree courses de-emphasising the need of polytechnic education. The way forward is for the private sector to be encouraged to set up their own polytechnics instead of only focusing on setting up universities.

In terms of Energy, it was realized that the power supply had become a major challenge in recent times posing serious challenges to the manufacturing and industry sectors. The group called for the need to explore other sources of energy to augment the current power plants. Encouraging private investment in energy particularly in solar and wind energy may be one way of solving this problem. With Ghana earning a middle-income status, it was important to maintain the peace and stability of the nation and improve the governance structure. With the economy growing about 14.4% in 2011, it is imperative to improve the governance structure alongside the economic performance. Establishing functional institutions for structural transformation are important in this regard. See Table 7.6 for summary matrix.

Table 7.6: Summary matrix for Development Partners

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Health (HIV/AIDS, maternal health)	We have attained middle-income status but issues such as health specifically HIV/AIDS and maternal mortality	Ministry of health/Ghana health services	Improve monitoring and evaluation	Medium term

	could overturn the gains of this status. Shortage of ARTs in Ghana so Ghanaian pharmaceutical to be given licenses to produce these drugs.			
Water/Sanitation	Indiscriminate disposal of refuse and littering around leaving the cities engulfed in filth	Environmental protection agency	Education, sanitation/change in attitude, solid waste treatment, privatization	Medium term
Illegal Mining	Recent spate of illegal mining and surface mining all over the country calls for grave concern	Lands and natural resource	Local authorities/district to manage and monitor the activities of illegal miners	Short term
Potable Water	Water supply is not able to meet the water demand partly as a result of poor management and illegal tapping of water.	Ghana Water Company	Good management of our water system	Medium term
Education (Polytechnics, ICT)	Education is important but with ICT it is very important to focus on the Polytechnics because we have skills shortage in the country.	Ministry of Education	Encourage private investment in Education especially private Polytechnics and Upgrade into Universities.	Long term
Energy (Solar, Wind)	With the current trend of power outages, it is important to explore other sources of energy and one best option is the solar energy.	Ministry of energy	Encourage private sector investment in energy	Long term
Good Governance (Stability, vulnerability and accountability)	Functional institutions, which is lacking currently in Ghana even though Ghana is now a middle-income country.	Good governance	Structural transformation of the economy; Increased manufacturing industries	Medium term

7.3.7 People Living with Disability

Table 7.7: Summary Matrix for People Living With Disability

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Education and Skills Training	It is difficult to go to school when you do not have the materials or logistics. It is also expensive these days to pay for school fees and buy those logistics for yourself	Ghana Education Service, Ministry of Education, Member of Parliament, District Chief Executive and NGOs	Education should be accessible to all and vocational training should be provided including tools and materials. Ministry of Education should ensure that Braille press be available for printing. There should be sponsorship for them.	
Employment	No information on the jobs available for them to apply. Not skills training to engage in their own trade.	District Assembly, Department of Labour and Social Welfare	1. Information about jobs be provided regularly and communicated to them. 2. Government to create jobs for them	
Financial Support	Not able to afford loans or credit to neither start up their own business nor expand. No money to take care of themselves since they do not have caregivers.	Member of Parliament, Government of Ghana, Common Fund Administrator and District Chief Executive	1. 3% of common fund be allocated for the PWDs, not 2%. 2. Loans should be provided for them to engage in trade.	
Mobility and Transport	Buildings are not disability friendly	Parliament of Ghana, Member of Parliament, District Assembly and NGOs	1. Buildings should be made more accessible 2. Disability law be implemented 3. Mobility aids be provided	

Health	Hospital bills are quite high and find it difficult to pay	National Health Insurance Authority, Ministry of Health, District Assembly	1. Free Registration of PWDs under the NHIS 2. Sign interpreters should be placed at health centers	
Inclusion	They are often left out in decision-making.	Parliament of Ghana, President, Government	PWDs should be included in decision making at all levels	

7.3.8. Youth

or the Youth, after synthesizing all the special youth group discussions that took place in all the 15 communities visited with the Tamale Special Group discussion with the Youth, the following issues emerged: Unemployment; Education and Skills Training; Health (Reproductive Health Education and Family Planning); Financial Assistance; Sanitation, Environment and Waste Management; and Telecommunication.

For unemployment, most of them mentioned that there were youth who have graduated from school or even acquired skills but could not find employment. They suggested that the youth be factored into the NYEP, government to provide jobs by building manufacturing plants to employ them among others.

In terms of education, it emerged that education has gone beyond building of school blocks. Indeed they called for quality education where qualified teachers will be engaged to teach, schools furnished with modern ICT centres, well stocked libraries. It was indicated that programmes such as school feeding programmes, free school uniforms, and scholarship schemes, when improved would go a long way to ensure quality education. Skills training, according to them, should also be encouraged by setting up of more vocational schools and training centers.

On health, focus was made of reproductive health and family planning. According to the youth, it was important that there is enough sensitization of reproductive health and family planning and their implications. With reference to reproductive health, the main area of focus was the illegal or unsafe abortion among the youth and exposure to sexually transmitted diseases. They suggested, however that health workers be employed to educate the youth on these issues.

Touching on financial assistance, it was mentioned that many of the youth had either graduated from school or had learned a skill but were unable to set up their own businesses. The felt that government and financial institutions should come to their aid with financial assistance for them to be able to start up their own businesses or even expand the smaller scale ones they have started. They suggested further that the

financial assistance be even extended to their colleagues in school who are having a hard time paying their fees and buying books among others.

In terms of electricity, it was observed that most communities were without power supply making it impossible for them to enjoy such facilities as thrive on power. For instance, because there is no electricity, they do not even have access to computers or even mobile phones to be able to compete with their colleagues in the urban communities. More importantly, lack of power denies them an opportunity to study in the evenings. They therefore suggested that government improves or accelerates the rural electrification project to reach every community in the country.

Many of them also mentioned that they are often prone to diseases due to poor sanitation. Water and air borne diseases are rampant because of issues like open defecation, and pollution. They called for public toilets, drainage systems and waste management facilities to curb the situation.

As far as telecommunication was concerned, they were to be part of the modern digitized world. They needed to be enrolled onto the technology platforms to bridge the technology divide and this starts with access to telecommunication network. The suggested way to achieve this was for telecommunication networks be extended to all communities and made affordable to the youth especially for them to be abreast with it and also exploit the potentials of it. See Table 7.8 for summary matrix.

Table 7.8: Summary matrix for Youth

WHAT	WHY	WHO	HOW	WHEN
Unemployment	There are skilled youth and even graduate who are unemployed. The number keeps increasing	Government, District Assembly, Member of Parliament and District Chief Executive	Enroll youth in the NYEP. Build factories to employ the youth	When there are jobs for the youth especially the graduates after school
Education and Skills Training	Education has gone beyond providing school blocks. Now it includes skills training such as ICT and vocational training.	Government, Ghana Education Service, GETFund, Scholarship Secretariat, District Chief Executive, Member of Parliament and NGOs	Set up schools, provide qualified teachers, computers, modern library, improve school feeding programmes, scholarships and free uniforms. Provide scholarships for needy but brilliant students. Set up skills training centers for the youth, technical and vocational schools.	When there are schools with modern facilities and qualified teachers. When all have skills training and employment after training
Health (Reproductive Health and Family Planning)	The youth needs to be educated on reproductive health and family planning and their implications on their health and society	Government, Ghana Health Service, District Assembly, NYEP	Health workers to be employed to educate the youth	When there is low incidence of unsafe abortions and more education on unsafe sex
Financial Assistance	Most youth are skilled but do not have means to access credit to start up their own businesses or expand existing ones. For	Government, Financial Institutions	Government should provide credit or loan facility to youth who have skills to start up their business or trade	When the youth can access loans to set up their own business or expand existing ones and are able to take care of themselves and their families

	those going to school, they would need assistance for books and stationary.			
Electricity	No power in most of the communities	Volta River Authority and Electricity Company of Ghana.	Need to improve the Rural electrification Project to all communities in Ghana.	When there is constant power supply in all communities
Sanitation, Environment and Waste Management	The spread of diseases as are result of poor sanitation is too much, and must be stopped	Government and District Assembly	Build public toilets and stop indiscriminate disposal of waste. Build drainage systems.	When people stop open defecation and littering of our cities
Telecommunication	If the youth are not exposed to ICT, they will be left out in the world which is thriving on ICT	Telecommunication Networks	Telecommunication networks must extend services to all communities and also improve quality of service.	When there is quality and affordable telecommunication network in every part of the country

7.4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the target stakeholders were duly represented and their contributions amply garnered. The next step of the consultation process was a validation workshop of the draft report after incorporating the contributions gathered at this workshop.

ANNEX: 7

ANNEX 7.1: GUIDING QUESTIONS AND REPORTING TEMPLATE

GHANA POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA DISCUSSIONS STAKEHOLDERS' GROUP VALIDATION QUESTIONS STAKEHOLDER GROUP:

1. What issues/concerns would your group want (the government, development agencies and international groups) to focus on (Post 2015) and Why?	
No:	ISSUE (Please list and tally responses)

2. How can these issues be addressed or tackled satisfactorily?	
Issue No:	How can the issue be addressed? (Mention issue as listed in 1 & then write responses, also probe whether they consider self-initiative as an option)

3. Who should take the lead in addressing these issues and why?		
Issue No:	Who should take the Lead and why? (<i>Mentions issues as listed in 1 & then write down who they think should lead, why and tally responses</i>)	Tally

4. When (Time Period) should these issues be addressed?		
Issue No:	Time Frame? (Please list issues and then tally)	Tally

5. Any other concerns?

ANNEX 7.2: FULL TEXT OF REMARKS BY UNRC

UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR STATEMENT

Post-2015 National Consultations for Professional Groups

19 March 2013

NDPC, Accra

The Chairperson,
The Chairperson of NDPC, Mr. PV Obeng
The Director General of NDPC, Dr. Regina Adutwum
The Media,
Distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen

On behalf of the UN Country Team in Ghana, I am very pleased to be here with you today for the 3rd Phase of the Ghana national consultations on the post-2015 development agenda. This collaborative work between NDPC and UN system in Ghana started on the 27 November, with a launch and workshop in Tamale; continued with Focus Group Discussions in selected communities in the 10 regions of the country, targeting the vulnerable and underprivileged. Today's event is the third direct consultations aimed at reaching out to professionals groups to which you belong for your views on the "World We Want". We have also made use of ICT to solicit views of Ghanaians through text messaging; Facebook and Twitter. All these forums provide opportunities for people to; assess the country's achievements of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); influence the global development agenda; and discuss how these fit into the long-term development vision for the country.

The findings of the 2012 Africa MDG Report confirm that, the continent's steady economic growth in the past few years has led to poverty reduction with positive impact on some of the MDGs. For instance, Africa is on track to achieve the MDG targets of: universal primary education; gender parity at all levels of education; lower HIV/AIDS prevalence among 15-24 year olds; increased proportion of the population with access to antiretroviral drugs; and increased proportion of seats held by women in national parliament by 2015. While the picture may be brighter for the continent as a whole, it is not so bright for some of the individual countries. Specifically, many countries, including Ghana are lagging in child mortality, maternal health, and sanitation targets. As such, the report also calls for countries to redouble their efforts to:

- tackle inequalities, including between genders;
- improve sub-standard quality and unequal distribution of social services between rural and urban areas.
- take concrete steps to ensure that economic growth translates into new and adequate employment opportunities for Africa's youthful and rapidly growing population, and
- ensure that social protection systems, that grow the resilience and capabilities.

For Ghana, the tracking of the MDGs has greatly helped to prioritise development interventions of lagging MDGs--- child mortality, maternal health, and maintenance of basic sanitation. While efforts are continuing to accelerate the achievements of MDG 5 targets, a number of additional global challenges have emerged in the last decade.

The rising income inequalities in many countries including Ghana, wide-spread and recurring food insecurity, unemployment, especially for the youth; manifestations of climate change, increasing energy needs and the exhaustion of natural resources, have a direct effect on all of us, especially the most vulnerable and poorest. These phenomena and their wide-ranging consequences require a renewed global consensus.

To ensure that people have a say in their own development, UN member states have decided that – this time – they would not only talk to development experts and governments alone, but also directly to those affected by these and other development challenges through national consultations on “*The World THEY Want*” after 2015. As always, Ghana has been selected as one of the countries to conduct such consultations.

We cannot be more grateful that Ghana has been given this chance to reach out to diverse segments of its population and gather their views, ideas and recommendations on the world they want - for themselves, their children, their communities, and country. These consultations have so far received suggestions from the rural and urban poor, the disabled, youth, women and children. Today, it is the turn of the professional groups present here to freely make your voices heard. The outcome of the whole consultations ties in well with Ghana’s future long-term development plan.

Experiences elsewhere have shown that, a systematic inclusion of all key stakeholders, especially in formulating development agenda, is a prerequisite for inclusive, equitable, and sustainable society. As an emerging middle income country, these are prerequisites in Ghana now than ever before. As the consultations draw to a close, we encourage all who are yet to contribute to the process to send their views to post2015@ndpc.org

Thank you for your attention

ANNEX 7.3: FULL TEXT OF REMARKS BY D-G, NDPC

NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION 19 MARCH, 2015, NDPC, ACCRA WELCOME REMARKS

BY DR. REGINA O. ADUTWUM, DIRECTOR-GENERAL, NDPC

The UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Ruby Rojon,
Hon. Members of Parliament,
Representatives of Political Parties,
Development Partners,
Representatives of MDAs,
Experts and Scholars,
Media
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to welcome you on behalf of the NDPC and the UN Country Team to the national stakeholder workshop on the post-2015 development agenda.

As many of us are undoubtedly aware, 2015 is the target year for the achievement of the millennium development goals (MDGs). The UN System has, therefore, initiated processes and debates on what the post-2015 development agenda should be. One of such processes is the conduct of country consultations in selected countries, including Ghana. This is based on the realization that post-2015 development framework will have the greatest development impact if it emerges from an open, inclusive and transparent process with multiple stakeholders.

In June last year, the NDPC was approached, as the apex body for the decentralized development planning system in the country, to partner with the UN Country Team to facilitate the national consultation on post-2015 development framework.

We commenced a media campaign to raise public awareness of the process in October and November last year. This included participation in GTV Breakfast Show, radio discussions, and a newspaper publication requesting for submissions from the general public and stakeholder groups. The response so far has, however, been quite disappointing. Perhaps this was due to the impending elections at the time which attracted the greatest public attention.

The national consultation on the post-2015 development agenda was officially launched in Tamale in November last year. This was followed by the first stakeholder workshop which targeted stakeholders principally from the three northern regions.

One of the cardinal principles of the national consultations is inclusion, which requires that efforts should be made to include all stakeholders in the country who will be affected by a post-2015 development agenda, with particular focus on effectively involving those who are normally under-represented or marginalized in decision making processes. Task Teams, comprising NDPC staff and those of the UN system in Ghana, were dispatched to 15 deprived and marginalized communities to hold focus group discussions. These include 3 slum communities, one each in Accra, Kumasi and Takoradi, as well as farming, fishing and remote communities selected from 12 deprived districts. We want to hear the voices of people living in such communities, the marginalized and the poor in our society.

We have also opened a Facebook page to capture the views of the youth regarding the world they want to live in. So far about 4,000 people have liked our page, with several useful contributions.

Distinguished participants, you have been invited here today to solicit your views on the world you want to live in. Thus, you have come to contribute ideas towards the framing of post-2015 development agenda that will succeed the MDGs. The data we are gathering from the national consultations will also inform the preparation of a national long-term Vision which has been commenced by the NDPC.

After today's meeting, a synthesis report will be prepared comprising reports from the first stakeholder workshop in Tamale, the focus group discussions in the marginalized communities, the Facebook comments, and the results of today's workshop. A validation workshop will be held at this same venue on 26 March, 2013. I hope many of you will be able to join us. Afterwards, our report will be forwarded to the UN for further processing into the post-2015 development agenda.

We will still welcome written inputs and relevant study reports from stakeholders that can help enrich our discussions, especially if they can be received by the end of this week.

I trust that we will all be able to stay throughout the discussions to optimize this historic opportunity given Ghana to contribute towards the determination of the global development agenda beyond 2015.

Finally, I would like to thank you sincerely for honouring our invitation, despite the fact that some got the invitation late. We really appreciate your support.

I pray for fruitful and productive deliberations.

THANK YOU.

ANNEX 7.4: FACILITATORS AND PARTICIPANTS LIST

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4	Mr. Kwaku Adjei-Fosu	NDPC
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CHAPTER EIGHT: E-CONSULTATIONS

8.0 INTRODUCTION

The United Nations selected about 50 countries initially to conduct national consultations that will inform the Post 2015 Development Agenda as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) near their target dates. Ghana is one of the initially 50 countries around the world to conduct this onerous exercise.

Among other things, countries were provided guidelines for carrying out the exercise as well as reporting format that will ensure uniformity and also facilitate the harmonization of all country reports. One such requirement of the guidelines was for countries to use innovative and cost-effective means in carrying out the consultations and must reach all categories of stakeholders.

To this end, the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) and the UN system in Ghana, which are the implementing agencies for the consultations adopted e-consultations as part of other forms of consultations methodologies used to reach the Information Communication Technology (ICT) savvy target group of stakeholders in compliance to the guidelines.

The e-consultations comprised three main methodologies, namely; Facebook, twitter, mobile text codes and email (See Annex B for addresses and codes). The e-consultation lasted from October 2012 to March 2013.

8.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the e-consultations were to:

- Ensure that all stakeholders, including the ICT savvy stakeholder group that could not be engaged directly, are reached and their contributions solicited, and
- Ensure maximum participation by taking advantage of the convenience the e-consultation provides that allows stakeholders the room to take part in the consultations at their time of convenience and in the comfort of their environment

8.2 PARTICIPATION

In total, over 4,000 individuals liked the Facebook page, and out of this figure, about 971 people made contributions. The gender representation was 741 males and 230 females.

Three people were involved in the twitter and 17 people responded via the mobile text codes but 2 responses were blank, leaving 15 respondents. Two individuals also sent their contributions through the specially created email address for the consultation.

8.3 METHODOLOGY

On Facebook, a page was developed for this purpose and was vigorously kept active by a communication task team (i.e. one of the many task teams formed to be responsible for various aspects of the consultation process). This team engaged in publicity of the Facebook page, updating of the page constantly with more questions and also interacting with Facebook users that commented on the page.

On twitter, the very few stakeholders that got engaged on that social media were mostly re-tweeting which increased the publicity of the whole exercise.

In addition, there was a mobile broadcast of the consultation to subscribers to mobile networks requesting of them to contribute via text codes provided to the various networks they are subscribed to.

Lastly, there were series of media adverts in the print media calling for memoranda or contributions from the general public and identifiable stakeholder groups or bodies. They were to send their contributions to an email addressed provided for this exercise.

8.4 FINDINGS

In response of the *‘What is the most important thing in life to you*, 69.7% of the total respondents of 704 cited health as the most important thing in life, followed by sanitation, education and then security (23.3%). In terms of *“What two key things will be needed for future generations to live welling this country”* 28% of the 25 respondents identified education as the most important. Peace ranked second with 16%. In terms of the responsibility to improve stands of living, the majority said both individuals and national government followed by those who think individuals are responsible. When asked about the specific focus areas for Post-2015 Development Agenda, education led the way followed by employment, and then sanitation, electricity, water supply, patriotism and technology. When asked as why people do not live well, poor leadership and lack of quality education were mentioned. Other reasons include poor human resources poor infrastructure, unemployment and poor healthcare delivery. In addressing the question, *‘What future do you want?’* 21.2% of the total respondents (66), wanted peaceful future, 18% said unemployment, 15.2% said electricity and portable water.

According to analysis of the text data, 40% of the respondents stated health as the most important area where they wanted to see change in the future for Ghana. Education and sanitation followed with 13.3% each.

8.5. E-MAILS CONTRIBUTIONS

There were two responses sent via e-mail. Both of them are male and from the academia. One of them stated that there should be a reorientation of the education system. This system should train teachers on the field to master and use several different teaching methods in a lesson to meet the

needs of all types of learners. He was also of the view that the educational system at the second cycle should be made to educate the whole person. The curricula and syllabi should aim at leading learners to be Inquirers, Knowledgeable, Thinkers, Communicators, Principled, Open-minded, Caring, Risk-takers, Balanced and Reflective. The philosophy of the system should emphasize intellectual, emotional, social and physical growth. The system should be placed in a socio cultural setting that encourages students to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right and it should equip students with the basic academic skills they need for tertiary study, further education and professional life. Another also stated that the ban on mobile phones in our schools should be reviewed as it was a means of improving literacy and ICT knowledge. He was also of the view that ICT should be all inclusive and should not favour only the more privileged in society. Curricula of the schools should also be reviewed to make it ICT friendly for all.

8.6 CONCLUSION

The objectives of the e-consultation were met as the target stakeholders were not left out in the consultation process but amply engaged and their contributions reflected.

That notwithstanding, it is important to note that over 3000 subscribers of Facebook did not contribute directly to the process for various reasons. Some said that they did not believe that their views would be taken seriously and others just promoted the process by “liking” the page. This is very characteristic of social media, where there are Observer (learners), and Active users (contributors).

Moreover, even though some minimal financial commitment was made in effort at reaching stakeholders through the mobile networks, contributions there were not that encouraging. This must have been explained by the cost involved in them sending their responses through that medium. It created the needed awareness though.

E-consultations, by this exercise indicates that it holds a good promise as an effective and efficient alternative to traditional modes of consultations hence its potential must be harnessed for future exercises.

ANNEX 8

ANNEX 8.1: COMMUNICATION TASK TEAM MEMBERS

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2	Doris Aglobitse	UNFPA
3	Naa Dedei Tetteh	NDPC
4	Noemi Villamarin	UNCT
5	Bright Owusu-Gyasi	ENCT

ANNEX 8.2: WEB ADDRESSES, LINKS AND TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK TEXT CODES

Description	Address, Links and text codes
Facebook Web link	http://www.facebook.com/NdpcPost2015GhanaDevelopmentAgenda
NDPC web address	www.ndpc.gov.gh
	www.worldwewant2015.com
Email Address	Post2015@ndpc.gov.gh
Vodafone and Tigo Telecommunication Networks text codes	1974
MTN telecommunication Network text code	1972
Expresso telecommunication Network text code	1972

ANNEX 8.3: SNAPSHOT OF FACEBOOK PAGE



CHAPTER NINE: VALIDATION OF FINAL CONSULTATION FINDINGS

9.0 INTRODUCTION

The validation of the Ghana Post 2015 Consultations findings took place on the 26 March 2013 at Coconut Grove Hotel, Accra. The validation brought together the various contributors to the Post 2015 Consultations to confirm, or otherwise, the findings. Over 90 people from different parts of Ghana attended. Twenty four participants (i.e. 8 each) were invited from Northern, Upper East and Upper West regions, and one each from the 15 communities, that were part of the Focus Group Discussions (FGDs). Furthermore, 10 Facebook users and representatives of the professional groups also participated. The choice of face-to-face validation in a workshop format over electronic one is evidence of lack of uptake of electronic communications during the actual consultations. The least popular form of consultations is Social media, text messaging, and email. For instance, out of over 4000 people who accessed the Facebook, only 971 actually contributed. Furthermore, despite renting text messaging codes from three major telecommunication networks in Ghana, only 17 contributions were received. With all this experience, the team felt it appropriate to invite representatives from the various stakeholder groups who participated in the consultations.

The participants came from the workshop in Tamale, community focus group discussions, professional groups, and electronic contributors. The selection of participants was random with emphasis on getting equal representation by gender. Deliberate attempts were made to include people living with disability. The professional groups were represented by individuals from the Civil Service (Government), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), the Private Sector, Academia and Research Institutions; and Development Partners. The attendance list is attached as Annex I.

The validation programme started at 9:00 am. In attendance were the Resident Coordinator of the UN System in Ghana, Ms Ruby Sandhu-Rojon, and the Deputy Chairperson of the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), Dr. Edith Tette, who served as the chairperson for the occasion. In their opening remarks, the UN Resident Coordinator and the NDPC Deputy Chairman welcomed and thanked those who took time to participate in the validation. Participants were taken through the reasons for the consultations for Post 2015 Development Agenda. Both of them reiterated the importance of MDGs in focusing the attention of the world on key development issues, but pointed out one of the main drawback as lack of wider consultations in developing those goals. The Post 2015 Agenda Consultations is meant to correct that. The meeting was a reminder that on the 5 April 2013, only 1,000 days will be left to the end date for the MDGs, and any achievements of MDGs should translate into better lives for the people. The Programme of the Validation is attached as Annex II.

Following the opening remarks, a 15 minute documentary on the '*Future We Want*' was shown. The clip has open consultations with people living in different parts of Accra. Common issues which emerged from those interviewed centred on sanitation, potable water, employment, education, health, power supply and care for the aged. This was followed by the presentation of the findings of the consultations.

Pa Lamin Beyai, UNDP Economic Advisor and UN Technical Focal Point for the Post 2015 Consultations made a presentation on the findings of the overall consultation process. He gave an overview of what the Post 2015 Consultations were about and explained that the entire process was overseen by a Steering Committee that comprised the UN Resident Coordinator, Heads of UN Agencies in Ghana, and the Director General of the NDPC; and a Technical Committee with membership of representatives of each of the UN Agencies and NDPC. The Technical Committee in turn formed three Task Teams on Launch in Tamale, Communications, and the Survey. The work of each team is summarised below:

Communication Task Team:

- Reach out to as many target groups as possible and receive feedbacks using the most cost-effective communication means.
- Prepare for Pre-Launch and Post-Launch publicity and awareness creation on Post-2015

Launch Task Team

- Arrange for the venue of the Launch at Tamale and related logistics
- Send invitation letters to participants
- Compile and coordinate participants list

Survey Task Team

- Adapt the Guiding Questions to Ghanaian context

The substantive Consultations were said to be carried out in two forms; direct and indirect. Direct consultations comprised face-to-face meetings in three phases such as the post-launch workshop in Tamale for the three Northern Regions attended by over 250 people; Focus Group Discussions in 15 communities across all the 10 regions of Ghana; and consultations with professional groups. Indirect consultations entailed email inputs, Text messaging and the use of social media, such as Facebook and Twitter.

Pa Lamin also mentioned other current consultations going on at the same time as the Ghana Post 2015 Consultations. They include consultations on inequality led by UN Women, UNICEF and the NDPC and the review of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) beyond 2014 by UNFPA and NDPC. Both consultations informed the national consultations and vice versa.

The key questions asked during the Ghana consultations are those provided in the Post 2015 Consultation Manual and they are **WHAT, WHY, WHO, HOW and WHEN?**.

9.1 EMERGING ISSUES

The emerging issues from all the consultations as well as for specific groups are shown below:

9.1.1 Post Launch Consultations

Emerging issues for the General Group

- Employment
- Human development (health, and education)
- Poverty and inequalities,
- Food security, decentralization,
- Governance
- Support system for persons with disability

Link to National Dev. Planning

- National Visioning and Long-term Plan
- Medium-Term Development Framework

Table 9.1: Emerging issues for specific groups in Tamale

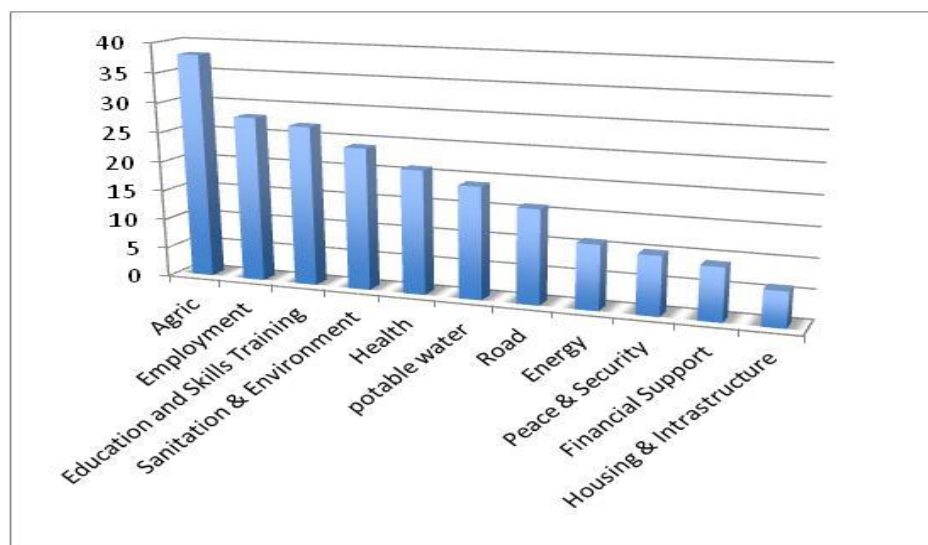
Name of Group	Need(s)
Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Healthcare ▪ Equal participation in decision making ▪ Access to resources for income generation activities
Aged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Healthcare ▪ Food security
Girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Education
Boys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quality education
Farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subsidies on farming inputs and capital
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quality education and skills training
People With Disabilities (PWDs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to hearing and mobility aids such as clutches, white cane and wheelchairs ▪ Access to buildings ▪ Sustainable livelihoods ▪ Education ▪ Skill Training ▪ Teaching and learning materials ▪ Implementation of the Disability Act ▪ Healthcare
Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Education ▪ Good nutrition

9.1.2 Community Focus Group Discussions

General Group

This group comprises all the special groups put together. They have identified agriculture, Employment, education and skills trainings as their top four priorities. Since the participants come from the three regions of Northern, Upper East and Upper West, where agriculture is the mainstay of the local economy, the prioritisation is consistent with other findings. The details are in Figure 9.1.

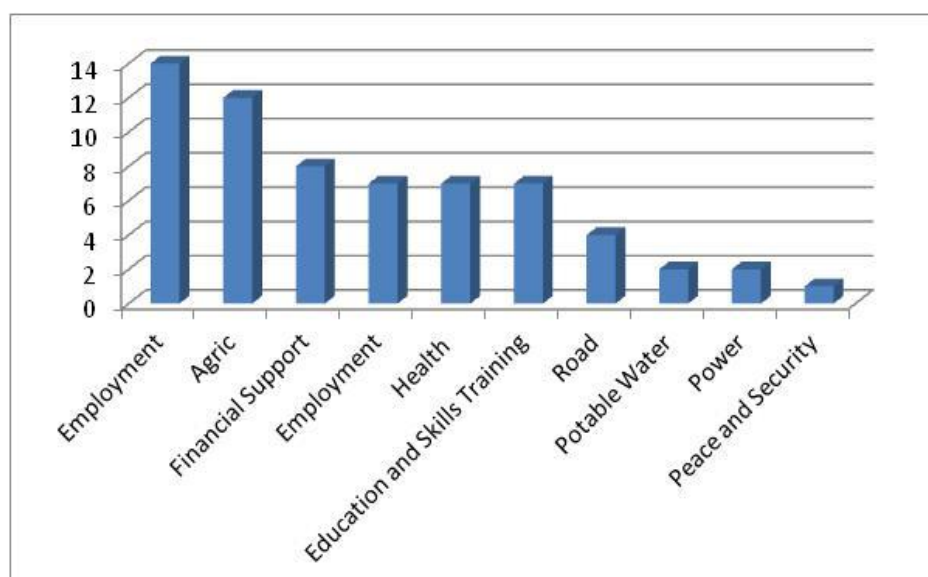
Figure 9.1



Elderly women

The elderly women prioritised employment, agriculture financial support and health. Their quest for employment is mostly for their children and grandchildren. It is not surprising that health care falls into the first four priorities of the elderly women given the high demand for such service at advance age. Figure 9.2 has the details.

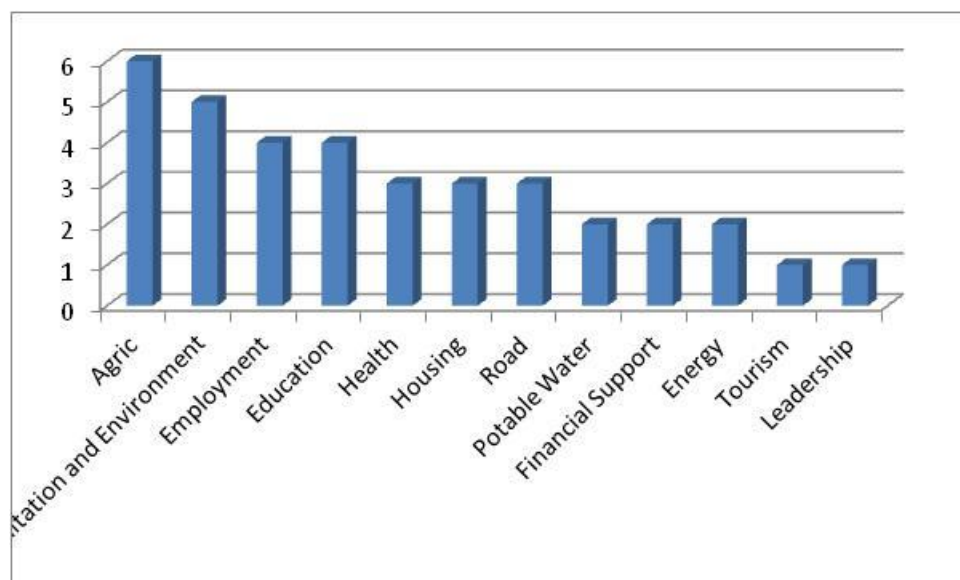
Figure 9.2



Elderly men

The elderly men indicated agriculture, sanitation, employment and education, especially for children as issues of concern to them. For a predominantly agricultural area, the choice is consistent with the situation in the area. Sanitation and environmental have also been pointed out as issues of concern to the elderly. The details are shown in Figure 9.3.

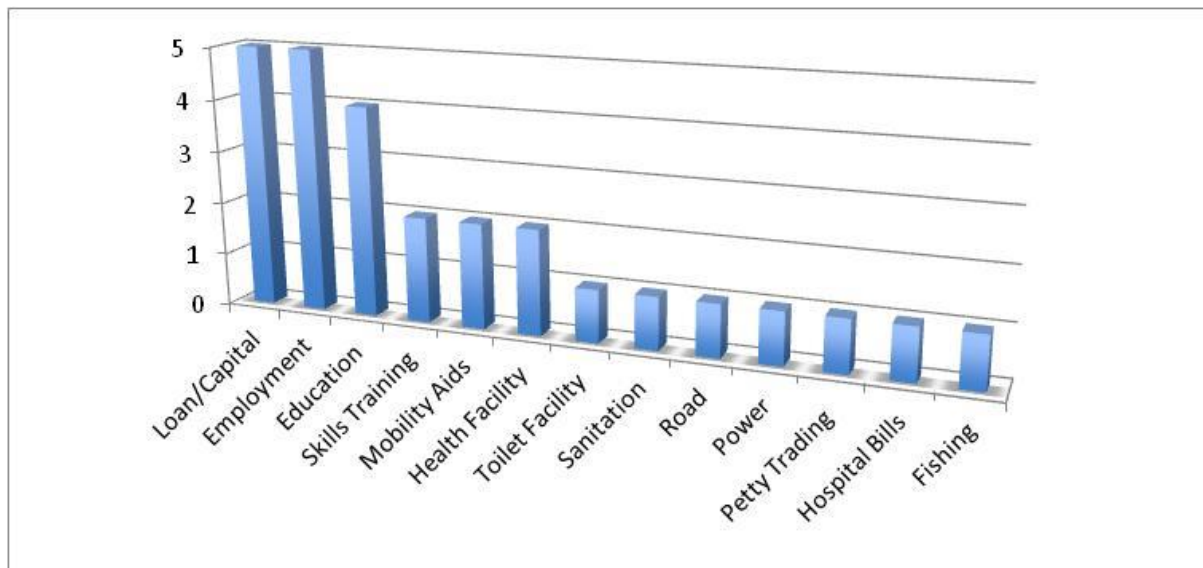
Figure 9.3



People Living with Disability (PWDs)

People Living with Disability prioritised their Post 2015 aspiration as Loan/capital, employment, education and skills training. The details are shown in Figure 6.4. This group generally wants to be independent and so small loan or employment puts them in good starting point. Table 9.4

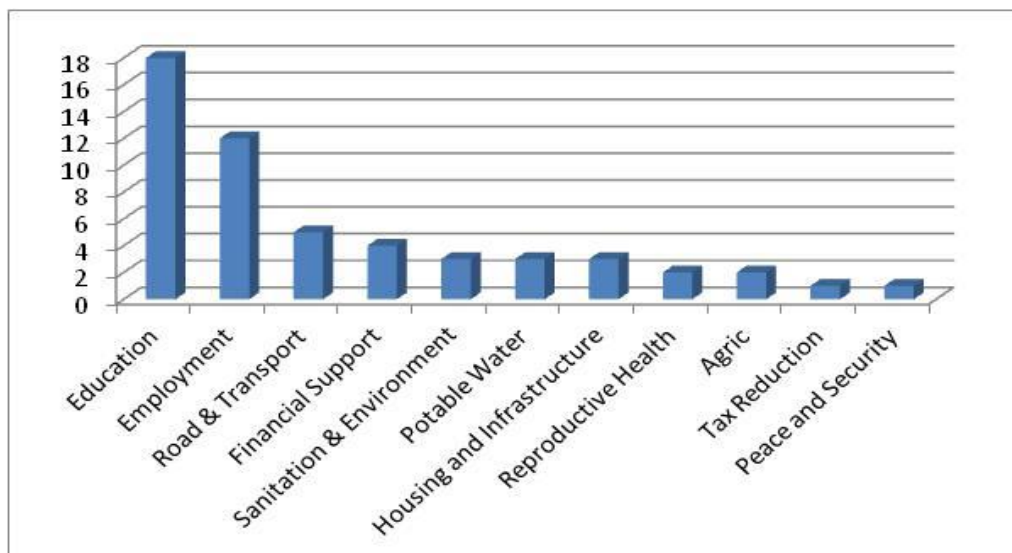
Figure 9.4



Youth & School Children

Figure 9.5 shows that the youth and school children put education followed by employment as the two most important issues for them post 2015. This pattern is the same for all youth in the various parts of Ghana.

Figure 9.5



The information obtained from FGDs were also analysed in terms of the setting of the group. The issues of concern to the three urban slums are outlined below. For such types of settlements, the issues of concern normally include environment and sanitation, peace and security and housing due to overcrowding.

Urban Slums

- Environment and Sanitation
- Peace and Security;
- Education and Skills Training
- Housing and Employment
- Sea defense and the effect of climate change

Fishing Communities

The fishing communities are mainly concerned about premix fuel and fishing equipment and the necessary infrastructure to transport and/preserve their catch. Due to the closeness to such communities to salt water, shortage of portable water is the norm. One of the communities was concerned with the effect of climate change.

- Premix fuel, outboard motors, fishing net, and canoe among others
- Employment /Factories to create jobs
- Unemployment and Youth Migration
- Credit for fishing activities.
- Infrastructure: road, electricity to preserve fish
- Portable water
- Sanitation, environment & waste Management
- Landing Beach
- Climate change was apparent as their water bodies were drying

Farming Communities

The problem caused by herdsmen is no doubt a major concern for the farming communities. Droughts, floods and internal migration and its effect on other diseases are also of concern.

- Security from herdsmen
- Portable water, (boreholes)
- Subsidized farming inputs & reduction of exploitation by middle men,
- Road for access to market centres,
- Health Facility - CHPS
- Employment
- Communication Network (Non access)
- Droughts (Irrigation); Floods; internal migration driven by lack of employment and low production, with environmental changes (droughts and floods) influencing the movement.

Small Scale Mining Communities

The small scale mining communities are worried about water pollution, security from small scale miners. These have been long standing issues of concern to people in these communities and there is no doubt that the consultations have further confirmed it. The other priorities are as shown below.

- Employment
- Polluted Water, bodies
- Environment,
- Security from small scale miners,
- Road network
- Education

Community in a Conflict Area

The priorities of those who live in conflict area are concern about peace and security as well as education on preservation of peace. This shows that even those in these areas cherish peace. From their priority list, peace occupied the first two spots followed by livelihood issues.

- Peace and Security
- Education on preservation of peace
- Food security
- Justice and transparency
- Irrigation facility
- Storage facilities
- Potable water
- Fuel wood

Youth

One of the consist groups is youth. In all instances they prioritised employment, and education. In the light of high unemployment for youth, especially graduate unemployment, this is not unexpected. ICT issues have also come up for the youth.

- Employment
- Quality education
- Education and Skills Training
- Health (Reproductive Health and Family Planning)
- Financial Assistance
- Electricity
- Sanitation, Environment and Waste Management
- ICT

9.1.3. Consultations With Professional Groups

The concerns and priorities of the professional groups are:

Government Agencies

- Poverty Reduction
- Integration of Population dynamics into National Development Plan
- Access to modern forms of energy in rural areas
- Public Accountability and Transparency
- Vulnerability and Social Exclusion
- Climate Change/Disaster Risk Management
- Maximisation of output from natural resources
- Access to quality basic education
- Access to quality healthcare
- Use of traditional knowledge, culture, norms, etc. in addressing issues of development
- Poor integration of environmental and energy issues in national planning agenda
- Environmental sustainability
- Unemployment
- Access to justice for the poor and vulnerable
- Macro-economic stability
- Lack of National Long Term Plan/Vision

Media

- Combat polarisation of the media
- Reduce Censorship
- Training for Media Personnel,
- Orientation & Supervision
- Respect for the Profession
- Security for the Media

Private Sector

- Recognition of the importance of private sector in development
- Efficient and sustainable agriculture and industry

9.1.4 E-Consultations

A total of over 4,000 people signed into the Facebook page designated for the consultations. Out of this number, 971 people made contributions. The gender composition of the contributors is 741 males, and 230 females. Over 3,000 did not contribute for various reasons. Some did not believe in the process and others felt that regardless of what they may say, their views will not be taken into consideration. This is worth the consideration of the planning authorities of the country. Lacking confidence in the planning process may affect future consultations. The least used medium of communication Text messaging, despite purchasing special codes from three telecommunication networks, only 17 contributed (8 males and 9 females). This may be explained by the network charges involved in texting.

9.2. CONCLUSION

Inequality

The most consistent concern among all stakeholders includes inequality, unemployment, sanitation and environment, human development (health and education). Two of the views expressed about inequality are shown below.

“ We will never reach the level of those who are already doing well in life because whatever is meant for us, they take it and get richer while we remain poor”

“Instead of giving us land for farming, they hire our labour to work in their farms. They continue to be richer and we continue to be poor”

The Chairperson in her closing remarks reiterated that many of the issues raised had been captured in the wider report. She once again reminded the meeting that on the 5 April 2013, 1000 days would be left to the expiration of the MDGs, and therefore called for acceleration efforts to be intensified for lagging MDGs. According to her, the door is always opened for suggestions to inform NDPC’s planning processes. The meeting closed at 12 AM.

The next steps after the validation were to complete the report with inputs from the validation, and dispatch it to UN Headquarters in New York.

ANNEX 9

ANNEX 9.1: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

After the presentations, the audience was then invited to make comments and some issues, which came up included:

- **Q:** Whether the NDPC would use the findings of the consultations to inform Ghana's Long Term and Medium Term Plans. Some even asked for assurance that the recommendations of the report would be implemented.
- **A:** Assurance was given that the findings of the consultations would not only informed the Post 2015 Agenda but also Ghana's own national development planning processes
- **Q:** A representative from Komenda district in Central Region asked why their concern for landing beach was not included.
- **A:** It was included in the report but only not part of the presentation.
- **Q:** Why was corruption not featured in the report?
- **A:** Corruption was mentioned several times in the report under transparency and accountability.
- **Q:** Why was issue of child health and child abuse did not feature in report
- **A:** Health issues featured very prominently and putting them into context, child and maternal health are the most lagging in Ghana. Child abuse did not openly emerge.
- **Q:** Why was the issue of low prices of staple foods such as maize was not included?
- **A:** Food security issues were included and moreover, the role of middle persons in exploiting farmers was included. This can easily be linked to guaranteed prices
- **Q:** Why issues of culture were not captured in report
- **A:** Culture came under empowerment of women, who are normally affected in different ways.
- **Q:** Why did you leave out issues farmers have with Fulani herdsmen?
- **A:** This was included but not linked to any specific ethnic group.
- **Q:** Why youth unemployment/engagement did not feature in report
- **A:** It was mentioned several time in the form of creating jobs for the you and empowerment by one of the professional groups
- **Q:** Transportation issues didn't emerge?
A: Transportation issues were listed mainly as part of the infrastructure, and they include road and rail transportation.
- **Q:** Would political parties incorporate findings of report into their manifestos?
- **A:** Although, politics specifically out of the scope of the consultations but the findings represent the view of Ghanaians and so any politician would want to consider them in his/her manifesto
- **Q:** Would the final copy of the report be made available to the general public?
- **A:** The Template will be sent to the UN Headquarters but the synthesis report will be posted on the NDPC website

ANNEX 9.2: COMMENTS

National Commission on Culture representative

People need the assurance that all findings will be put to use.

Implementation of AMA policies with regards to sanitation practices (Landlords should be forced to put up toilets in their homes if law has been passed forbidding philanthropists to put any up)

The UNIDO representative in Ghana. The UNIDO Representative in Ghana observed that structural change/economic transformation was not really identified as one of the main solutions to achieve future development goals. Apart from a reference by the private sector focus group to the need for ‘efficient and sustainable agriculture and industry’, no group seems to have clearly underscored the need for a structural transformation of Ghana’s economy for both poverty reduction as well as social equality objectives. This is somewhat surprising knowing that Ghana will need to diversify economically to consolidate the gains from past economic growth, which was fuelled by mineral resources and commodities. It is also surprising in light of recent internal experience –notably that of China which has effectively demonstrated that structural transformation through industrial development is a, if not the, main avenue for reducing poverty and for significantly increasing income for unskilled and semi-skilled workers. He furthermore added that, in his view, past development thinking had not sufficiently recognized the need for structural transformation in aiming for MDG 1 –and it is ironically in great part thanks to industrial development in China (and other Asian countries) that MDG1 has been achieved at global level. While ultimate/fundamental development objectives should arguably be social in nature, it could be good to define *operational objectives* in order to suggest avenues for achieving the fundamental objectives.

Government was also encouraged to consider the construction of well-engineered sanitation systems for households and major towns to replace the public toilet systems which is no longer allowed.

A representative from the National Commission on Culture made an appeal for respective government agencies to be included in issues related to their designated mandates. For example, her agency which is an official government commission for cultural issues is always excluded in cultural activities organised in the country.

Representative from one of the communities

Social protection for the aged should be considered.

Representative for persons with disability

The officials of law enforcement agencies should be just in settling disputes.

Representative from GNPC

Recommendation: Government should maximize benefits from natural resources.

Representative from MDG Ambassadors

Reducing child mortality, migration, abuse of children and orphans

Improve the railway system and other transportation modes, to aid especially farmers and their produce

Representative from Komenda

Proper landing beach for fishermen

Representative from UNICEF

The focus should be on zero tolerance for everything negative .e gender inequalities, child abuse etc.

Any solutions suggested should reflect the global trend. For instance, someone recommended public toilets, when use of such toilets is not allowed.

Representative from a Government Institution

There is a new government policy on latrines- An attempt to promote household latrines for every community and human settlement.

Public latrines will now be set up only in schools, workplaces and bus stops.

Emphasis should also be placed on the construction of well-engineered waste disposal grounds (refuse dumps)

Representative from UNAIDS

The broader issues of HIV/AIDs should focus on Stigma and Discrimination which goes beyond HIV/AIDs. Child Abuse, Disabled persons can all be placed under this broader topic

Corruption

Gender and Human Inequality

Industrialization and Job Creation (affects both the youth and other mature professionals)

Representative from UN agency

Arbitrate the general perspective of the common man with the view of professionals.

Representative from Farmers

Supervision of agricultural inputs supplied to ensure they are used for what they were meant for.

Traditional Ruler, Wa

Protection of food crops

High Cost of Production

Representative from UNDP

Women lack the decision-making power

Representative from Africa 2000 Network

Proper education of the populace on all issues for them to better participate in programmes event such as the Post 2015 consultations. In summary, the Focal Person made it clear that most of the issues not shown in presentation had actually been captured in the wider report. On the issue of culture, the Dr. Mensa-Bonsu explained that a symposium on Culture and Development in Africa had been organised by the UN Economic Commission for Africa, and since Ghana was a participant, the findings would be factored into the current development agenda. The Director of Plan Coordination at NDPC stated that all Ministries and District Assemblies draw their development plans from the National Plan developed by the NDPC and the findings of the consultations would be helpful in developing the next Medium term Development Framework.

ANNEX 9.3: PARTICIPATION LIST

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CHAPTER TEN: SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESULTS

10. OVERALL THEMES THAT EMERGED FROM THE CONSULTATIONS

10.1.1 Inequalities

In all communities, participants were aware of the existence of inequalities among them. They were able to identify those who are not living well were among them. Those identified as not living well and the reasons why they are not living well include the following:

10.1.2 People Living with Disability (PWD): This group argued that, they are not given due recognition in society because of their condition, and not given enough respect or consulted in decision-making. Many of them are uneducated and without employable skills. Therefore, they are largely to remain unemployed. Some have mobility problems because several public facilities are inaccessible to them. Some have communication challenges. A participant at a workshop in Tamale commented: *“Many of us needlessly die owing to wrong diagnosis and wrong prescriptions resulting from lack of effective communication with health personnel. Sign language should be taught in schools for effective communication with PWDs”*.

10.1.3 Widows: This is particularly so for those without employment and any support systems.

10.1.4. Unemployed: They have no income, and therefore cannot live the sort of life they desire. They are dependent on the benevolence of family and friends. They could have started their own businesses, but many of them indicated that they have no access to capital to start their own businesses.

10.1.5 Orphans: Lack of guardians with adequate resources to take care of them.

10.1.6 The Sick: The sick cannot work to earn an income. If they do have savings, often they spend much of it on medical bills. One participant at a community meeting in Wa East said: *“The sick cannot work or go to school. Good health is a big asset, and is fundamental for people to live well”*.

10.1.7 School Drop-outs: Some young girls who drop out school as a result of teenage pregnancy are left with no employable skills and hence cannot find jobs. Some take up any menial job available. Unfortunately, these jobs do not provide enough income to cater for them and their children. Some boys and girls also drop out of school due to the fact that their guardians are not able to sponsor their education. It was revealed that such drop-outs are not able to learn a trade because of lack of sponsorship. As a result, the gap between the school drop-outs and their classmates in school continues to widen. One school drop-out in Kumasi lamented: *“I dropped out of school because my parents could not pay my school fees. My classmates are still pursuing their education. As I sit here, without support to even learn a trade, how am I going to catch up with my mates?”*

10.1.8 Older Persons: Older persons are losing the care and support they would have usually received from their younger family members because of migration. At their age, many of them are unable to work, and are experiencing deteriorating health leading to high medical bills. A large proportion of the older persons worked in the informal sector and therefore could not and are not benefitting from any pension or social security scheme. Those who were in the formal sector were able to join the national pension scheme, the Social Security and National Insurance Trust. However, owing to low contributions resulting from low incomes, their monthly pension is inadequate to take care of their needs. One old man in Kumasi who is not on any pension scheme lamented: *“When I was working, I was unable to build my own house, but I was able to rent accommodation. Now I’m not working and cannot afford the high rent. I could have been homeless except for the intervention of a relative who is accommodating me. Government should establish old peoples’ homes”*.

10.1.9 Persons Living in Poor and Marginalized Communities: These communities, whether in the urban areas (slums) or rural areas, are characterized by lack of social and economic infrastructure and services to live well. Some of the key infrastructure demands that emerged include: good roads to access markets and urban-based services, energy /power for domestic and industrial use (such as power for cold storage facilities in fishing communities, or fuel for outboard motors for fishing), potable water supply to prevent water-borne diseases, adequate sanitation facilities for a safe and healthy environment and telecommunication to monitor prices of products in market centres.

10.1.10 People living in the Savannah belt: This ecological zone is characterized by a short rainy season and a long period of drought each year. Farmers are engaged in rain-fed agriculture and can only cultivate their crops over the short rainy season. For a greater part of the year, they hardly do anything productive. This has several implications. First is food security. What they produce is not enough to last throughout the year. Therefore, during the lean season, there is food scarcity. It was revealed that the best most families can afford is a single meal in a day. One participant at a community meeting at Baayire in the Wa East District commented that: *“A good indicator that people in this community are living well is when everyone is able to have three square meals in a day”*. Second, people in this ecological zone also complained that their farms are invaded and crops destroyed each year by cattle brought into the country by nomadic herdsmen from the sub-region. The third issue raised by people living in the ecological zone is youth migration to urban areas and other regions in search of jobs. A participant at a community meeting at Baayire said: *“When they leave, some do not return because they get killed through the risky jobs they get involved in, leaving behind widows. Those who are fortunate to return, come back with all kinds of diseases related to the risky jobs and the kind of lifestyles they adopt when they are away from home”*. It is believed that some of the diseases could be HIV/AIDs.

10.1.11. People Living in Areas with Environmental Degradation or Threat of Climate Change: Small scale mining activities have caused widespread devastation to soil, vegetation and water bodies in some parts of the country. Communities in such areas face serious

challenges with resources for development, especially agricultural lands for farming. Conflicts between the illegal small scale miners and the communities are common. Some of the illegal miners are foreign nationals from the sub-region or from Asia. The existence of illegal surface mining is a reflection of weak institutions in the country.

Climate change is real in Ghana. Some areas have experienced drying up of water bodies. In Woe in the Keta Municipality, people complained about losing their fishing grounds because of the water-bodies drying up. Similarly in Wasakuse, a community within the Ada District of the Greater Accra Region, a previously thriving lagoon fishing community has collapsed because of the total drying up of what used to be a fishery resource rich in-land water body with significant fish related economic activities as recently as 2009.

10.1.12. People Living in Conflict Areas:

People living in conflict areas indicated that they are unable to carry out their economic activities because of the fear of attacks. This is affecting agricultural production and consequently food availability.

In summary, inequality is therefore seen as a core issue that needs to be tackled in a post-2015 development agenda. It is seen as a cross-cutting issue that is reflected in all spheres of life.

10.2. HELPING PEOPLE TO LIVE WELL

In order to ensure that people live well, there is the need to provide what they are lacking, or need to live well. From the foregoing analysis, the following themes emerge:

- Addressing Inequalities: spatial inequalities, social inequalities, income inequalities
- **Growth and employment:** The need for the economy to expand to be able to absorb graduates and the increasing numbers of people entering the job market each year; the need to ensure supply of financial resources to the private sector; the need to promote investments in productive sectors.
- **Food Security:** Hunger, Food and Nutrition security.
- **Education:** Improving the quality and increasing access at all levels.
- **Health:** Ensuring that people are healthy and that they have access to quality health services when they fall sick or are involved in accidents. Maternal and child health, PLHIV, PMTCT
- **Governance:** Need for an inclusive and long-term development policy and plan, the need to strengthen institutions, the need to tackle corruption.
- **Population dynamics:** the need to address the high population growth rate, the need to integrate population issues into development policy and planning at all levels, managing urbanization and the resultant effects of slum dwelling as well as internal and international migration.
- **Water Supply:** ensure adequate and reliable supply of potable water for domestic and other uses, as well as irrigation for agricultural development.

- **Energy:** ensure adequate and reliable power supply for domestic and other uses. Ensure availability of energy for cooking.
- **Environmental sustainability:** need to promote green economy, environmental governance, adaptation to climate change, etc.
- **Transportation:** ensure access to all communities; improve road conditions in urban areas in particular;
- **Sanitation Facilities:** ensure adequate provision of toilet facilities, implement proper waste management, and develop proper storm drainage facilities and innovative ways of sanitation management.
- **Special Infrastructure:** Landing beaches for fishing communities, sea defense for coastal settlements.
- **Macro-stability, poverty reduction & Social Protection:** create macroeconomic stability to reduce poverty and ensure inclusive growth by bring along older persons, poor and vulnerable, PWDs, and other vulnerable groups into the growth process

10.3. AREAS OF CONSENSUS AND DIVERGENCE

10.3.1 Areas of Consensus

- **Education :** has emerged in all discussions as one of the surest means of escaping poverty, and guaranteeing employment
- **Employment:** has emerged as a common issue in all the stakeholder groups. The PWDs want employment so they can reduce poverty and live independent life; those already engaged wanted to see the development of their businesses with additional capital.
- **Environment and Sanitation:** is seen by many of the stakeholders as a condition for good health
- **Health:** good health is seen by many of the stakeholders as a requirement for productive life; they want access to quality health care for all categories of people.
- **Water:** is still a concern to many of the stakeholders who associate poor quality water to poor health; farmers want to have water for all-year agriculture
- **Electricity:** Many of the stakeholders want to have reliable power supply for domestic, industrial, commercial and other uses.
- **Road:** In both rural and urban areas, infrastructure especially roads are seen as essential for effective transportation for economic and social gains

10.3.2. Areas of Divergence

- **Security:** is concern to communities affected by nomadic cattle herdsmen from the sub-region, and communities affected by illegal small scale mining activities. The stakeholders from urban slums and those from communities in conflict areas also wanted to have peace.
- **Housing:** Even though nationally, this is seen as critical issue, it was not raised by many of the stakeholders. It was an issue raised in the urban slums, where many are migrants or settlers.

- **ICT:** Stakeholders who contributed via e-consultation raised this as an issue. They want to see improvement and increased access to the citizens.
- **Governance:** This was raised in the stakeholder consultation with government agencies and also in Tamale during the Post-launch consultation. They expect to see a reduction in corruption and more transparent governance. The representatives of Development Partners also raised governance as an issue that needs to be addressed. There was also a call for the determination of the national shared vision for the country.
- **Research and Development (R & D):** The academia and research institutions want increased investment in R & D, and the absorption of research findings.
- **Polarization of the Media:** The media raised this as an issue affecting professional practice. They see it as a threat to national unity. This results mainly from the ownership of media houses by politicians.
- **Importance of the Private Sector:** Stakeholders from the private sector want public and government recognition of their critical role in national development.
- **Agricultural development:** Stakeholders from the private sector emphasized the need to promote agricultural development as a basis for industrialization and national development.

ANNEX 10:

ANNEX 10.1: COMPLETED REPORTING FORMAT-ANNEX 5.1

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CONSULTATION RESOURCES					
Funding:	United Nation Development Group (UNDG), Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)				
Partners:	National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), Africa 2000 Network				
Timeline:	July 2012 – April 2013				
Synergies with other Processes:	1. Preparation of a National Vision and Long-Term Development Strategy; 2. International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Beyond 2014 Review; 3. Global Thematic Consultation on Inequalities				
CONSULTATION PROCESS					
Stakeholders	Activities	Methodologies			
Identifiable Groups and the General Public	Public Sensitisation	National Launch to climax a series of publicity events			
Economic and Social Stakeholders from the three Northern regions of Ghana	Stakeholder Consultation	Workshop, with break-out sessions for identifiable stakeholder groups			
Community Focus Group Discussions (Poor and marginalised groups nationwide)	Engagement with poor and marginalized groups	Focus Group Discussions in selected communities			
National level stakeholders and interest groups, including experts, representatives of government agencies and private sector entities	Stakeholder Consultation	Workshop, with break-out sessions for identifiable stakeholder groups			
Internet-connected audience such as the Youth, and other stakeholders	e-Consultation	Facebook, Twitter, Mobile Text codes, email			
Randomly selected representatives of all stakeholder groups engaged in the consultation process	National Validation Workshop	Presentation and discussion of findings			
CONSULTATION CONTENT					
Stake-holders	WHAT?	WHY?	WHO?	HOW?	WHEN?
Urban Poor	Improved Environment and Sanitation situation	Lack of places of convenience and proper disposal of waste brings about unpleasant smell and the spread of diseases.	The District Assembly	Waste bins and containers should be emptied on time; Toilets or places of convenience must be built to meet the growing population in the community.	1. Immediate 2. Indicator: When people no longer defecate or dispose of their waste indiscriminately in the community
	Peace	Peace and security are needed to reduce the crime rate and enhance the image of the community	The Police and Youth of the community	Police posts should be built in communities; community watch dog committees established.	When the residents of the community are no longer tagged as criminals
	Housing	Lack of accommodation for many of the residents.	Government	Provision of affordable housing	When households can afford decent accommodation through rent or direct purchase.
	Education and Skills Training	Without education or skills training, it is difficult to get a job and without decent jobs, the youth resort to criminal activities.	Government and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)	Provision of qualified teachers to improve quality of education in the community. The Youth should be taught skills that will enhance their chances to work.	When the results of the Basic Education Certificate Exams are improved

	Employment	Lack of employment leads to social vices, especially among the youth.	Self-initiative, Government, Financial Institutions	The Youth, and women, should be supported with loans to start their businesses or expand them. Market structures should be put up for the women in the communities.	When the youth are able to get good jobs and are able to take care for themselves and their families
Rural Poor (Fishing Community)	Employment	Apart from fishing, there is no source of income therefore many people especially the youth migrate to other communities. Lack of support for fishing activity	Government, the rich and NGOs	Provision of fishing inputs like the premix fuel, outboard motors and canoes etc at a cheaper cost to engage them in fishing. Structures like a landing beach will also help. The rich should also employ the poor in the community.	When there are income generating activities with guaranteed incomes
	Road	Access to the community and market centers is hampered by poor road networks. A good road is needed for cheaper and faster transportation of their products	Government and District Assembly	New roads should be built and existing ones improved to enhance access to the markets	When there is a good road network
	Environment, Sanitation and waste management	Due to lack of toilet facilities as well as no proper dump site, the community members resort to defecating or dumping waste in water bodies.	Government, NGOs, Member of Parliament, Assemblyman and Traditional Authorities	Enforce bye-laws on environmental sanitation. Adequate provision of sanitation facilities.	When community members no longer defecate or dump waste into water bodies
	Water	Potable water is needed to eliminate water borne diseases. Due to illegal fishing methods, water bodies are polluted.	Government, NGOs, District Assembly	Provision of boreholes for domestic consumption and irrigation facilities for farming activities to complement the fishing activities	When there is adequate provision of safe drinking water
	Environmental Degradation	The water bodies are drying up	Government, NGOs, District Assembly	Dredging of water bodies	When the water bodies are no longer drying up
	Education	Education to give children a better opportunity in life.	Government, NGOs and District Assembly	Set up schools especially nurseries and build accommodation for qualified teachers	When children are no longer dropping out from school but are also passing their exams well
	Electricity	For cold store or preservation of their fish and business	Government	To extend power to the community.	When there is electricity in the community
Rural Poor (Farming Communities)	Health facility	A health facility is needed to help reduce maternal mortality and treatment of snake bites.	Government and District Assembly	Provision of health facilities	When there is a health facility with qualified doctors and nurses in the community
	Irrigation Facility	They are engaged in rain-fed agriculture for only three months of rain. This makes people redundant for the greater part of the year.	Government	Provision of Irrigation facility.	When there is an irrigation facility to allow all-year farming
	Road	Lack of access to markets leading to post harvest losses. Lack of access to services and facilities in bigger settlements.	Government, Member of Parliament	Improvement in road conditions	When the road condition is improved
	Education	Quality Primary and Secondary education is needed for the children to be able to read and write.	Government, Ghana Education Service, NGOs and District Chief Executive	Provision of schools and teachers	When there are schools in the community and when children are able to read and write
	Employment	They need jobs with guaranteed regular incomes to cater for	Government and District Assembly	Farm inputs should be provided for the cocoa growing communities to increase their	When there is guaranteed income and increased food production

		family		yield and income	
	Security	Herdsmen are destroying farms yet the farmers cannot confront them	Government, District Assembly and Security agencies	Provision of security for farmers from herdsmen	When farmers feel safe from herdsmen
	Communication Network	Communication is needed to know prices of products in market centres	Mobile Network Operators	Provision of Communication Networks (mobile phones) in communities	When there is good mobile phone reception in the community
Rural Poor (Small scale mining communities)	Education	It is needed to ensure good foundation for the individual and to promote national development	Government, NGOs, Member of Parliament and Action Aid	Provision of schools furnished with Information and Communications Technology (ICT) centres and well stocked libraries	When there are schools with modern facilities in the community for the children
	Security	Protect the youth from engaging in illegal mining and community members from foreigners engaged in mining activities	Government and District Assembly	Provision of security for the youth and community members	When there is a police post in the community When youth are no longer engaged in illegal mining and community members feel safe from foreigner illegal miners
	Employment	Lack of trade and farming activities in the communities leading to social vices and illegal mining	Government and NGOs	Provision of microfinance for women to engage in trade and cater for their families	When women are engaged in trade and taking care of their families
	Road	Lack of access to market and service centers. Farm produce get spoilt leading to loss of income and poverty	Government and District Assembly and Member of Parliament	Improvement in road conditions	When road conditions are improved
	Water	Lack of potable water.	NGOs and District Assembly	Provision of water facilities	When there is potable water
	Environment	Pollution of water bodies due to mining activities. Destruction of farmlands, thereby affecting farming activities.	Government, District Assembly, Member of Parliament, Traditional Authorities	Sensitization/ education on environmental degradation and re-forestation	When indiscriminate mining is no longer happening and when there is re-forestation. ion
Rural Poor (Conflict Area Community)	Unity, Peace and Security	Lack of peace and security leads to waste of time and resources. Without peace, members of the community cannot work on farms.	Security agencies, Government and District Assembly	Education on peace and presence of security. Existence of Justice and transparency	When there is lasting peace and security and people feel safe to go about their businesses at any time
	Food Security	Have food for feeding all year round and to sell surpluses for income	Ministry of Food and Agriculture, District Chief Executive, and Chiefs	Irrigation facility, farm inputs and storage facilities to be provided for community	When there is enough food all year round with surplus to sell to other parts of the nation
	Energy (Fuel Wood)	Women suffer to collect firewood from very far off places.	Government	Alternate source of energy	When our mothers and sisters do not have to travel long distances to fetch firewood
	Education	Secure a good future for the children	Ghana Education Service	Build schools and provide qualified teachers	When the children graduate as far as to the tertiary level of education
	Potable Water	Prevent sicknesses associated with drinking unclean water and reduce inconvenience of going to a different community to fetch water.	NGOs, District Assembly, Member of Parliament and Chiefs.	Boreholes to be provided for community	When people, especially women do not have to travel long distances to get potable water

Civil Society Organisations	Youth Development and engagements (capacity development):	The youth are left out in most development plans and a greater number of the youth are under privileged.	Government (National Youth Association, Ministry of youth and sports)	Establishing of youth desks in Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) & Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs); Strengthening of existing structures; Improving coordination and collaboration; Encouraging the youth to read the youth policy so that they get to know what is it for them. Financing Youth Development in Ghana.	5 years
	Educational Reforms	The educational system in Ghana does not fully equip students and the teaching methods do not also benefit some classes of students especially those with disability and medical conditions.	Government (Ministry of education)	Restructure the educational system from Junior High School to Tertiary level. The training must be relevant to the various industries in the country. Identify the forms/ways by which students learn such that teachers will be trained in all the applicable teaching methods. This will enable all students to benefit from the system; teachers should also be well equipped with the necessary teaching aids.	3years
	Improve community based health care	The delivery of health care must be brought to the doorstep of the marginalised in society like the People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV) & People With Disabilities (PWDs); maternal health must also be taken seriously.	Government (Ministry of health)	More health posts should be built in these communities; PLHIV must be educated on how and where to access services; personnel sent to these health posts must be trained in service delivery for the marginalised in society.	3years
	Social inclusion policies (PWDs):	The welfare of this group of persons is not prioritised; their health concerns, employment constraints among other issues have been left unaddressed.	Government (Social protection)	These policies must be advanced; Simplifying our local laws to conform to the United Nations (UN) Convention on the rights of the disabled. Pass the Disability Bill	4 years
	Food security	Food security must be improved so that our seasonal food cash crops will be available at all times of the year.	Government (Ministry of food and agriculture)	Government should educate crop producers on variety; Programs must be implemented that target variety of crops; more investment must be made in the area of food storage facilities while production is also increased	4 years
	Climate change	Climate change is affecting economic growth in most parts of the country especially farming and fishing communities	Government Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Research must be conducted into the trends and impact of these changes so that a national policy can be developed; Train community persons on preparedness and preventive measures	
	Energy Issues	Energy Poverty and how they affect the electricity tariffs	Government	Reliance on hydroelectric power must be reduced and focus should be on other resources of energy. Increase investment in alternative energy resources such as wind, solar, biogas etc.	5 -10 years
	Improve ICT	ICT is now the backbone for any development especially for the youth	Government (Science and Technology)	Integration of ICT into educational curriculum at all levels; improving accessibility and utilization of ICT; PWDs must also be considered by putting in place, PWD friendly	3years

				ICT systems.	
The Youth	Unemployment	There are skilled youth and even graduates who are unemployed, and the number are increasing	Government, District Assembly, Member of Parliament and District Chief Executive	Enroll youth in the National Youth Employment Policy (NYEP). Build factories to employ the youth	When there are jobs for the youth especially the graduates
	Education and Skills Training	Education has gone beyond providing school blocks. It should also consider quality and skills training such as ICT and vocational training.	Government, Ghana Education Service, Ghana Education Trust Fund (GETFund), Scholarship Secretariat, District Chief Executives, Member of Parliament and NGOs	Set up schools, provide qualified teachers, computers, modern libraries, improve school feeding programmes, scholarships and free uniforms. Provide scholarships for the needy but brilliant students. Set up skills training centres for the youth, as well as technical and vocational schools.	When there are schools with modern facilities and qualified teachers. When skills training is available to all those who need it.
	Health (Reproductive Health and Family Planning)	The youth need to be sensitized about reproductive health and family planning issues and their implications on their health and on society	Government, Ghana Health Service, District Assembly, NYEP	Health workers to be employed to educate the youth	When there is low incidence of unsafe abortions and more education on unsafe sex
	Financial Assistance	Most youth are skilled but do not have means to access credit to start up their own businesses or expand existing ones. For those going to school, they would need assistance for books and stationary.	Government, Financial Institutions	Government should provide credit or loan facilities to youth who have skills to start up their business or trade	When the youth can access loans to set up their own businesses or expand existing ones and are able to take care of themselves and their families
	Telecommunication	Expose youth to ICT	Telecommunication Networks	Telecommunication networks must extend services to all communities and also improve the quality of service.	When there is quality and affordable telecommunication networks in every part of the country
Media	Polarisation of the media	Media personnel and houses are affiliated to, or seen to be executing a particular political party agenda, making them biased rather than being objective as required of their profession.	National Media Commission and Media Houses	Education and sanctions for culprits of such polarization.	
	Political ownership of the media houses	In recent times, we have politicians owning media houses and using these media houses to promulgate their political agenda to the detriment of national cohesion and education.	National Media Commission, the Parliament of Ghana	Law to regulate media ownership by restraining active politicians from owning media houses for the purposes of promoting political agenda.	
	Censorship	The media is quick to put out gory stories with pictures on front pages or even on the television, stories that incense and threaten national unity as well as pornographic materials.	National Media Commission	National Media Commission should be completely independent and should check the media reportage on issues such as accidents, rape and nudity; Monitoring of production.	Immediately
	Training of Media	The media houses do not invest in the training and	Media Houses	Appropriate training in handling sensitive issues	Immediately

	Personnel	capacity building of their personnel. As such, they lack the skills in handling very sensitive issues.			
	Orientation and Supervision	Management of media houses, especially Editors, should be in charge of what is produced from their "backyard". In many cases, they are unaware of the news being churned out by their houses and even not aware of what their personnel are up to leading to breakdown of professionalism in the industry.	Media Houses	Editors should be sensitized on what is being reported on.	Immediately
	Respect for the Journalist profession	The media should be recognized as the fourth state of the nation and must be respected for the work they do. They are often treated with contempt even at events where they are only there to cover.	Media Houses and National Media Commission	Education for the public on the importance of the media profession and orientation for the media personnel not to engage in activities that will drag the name of the industry into disrepute.	Immediately
	Security for the Media	In recent times, media personnel have been frequently manhandled while discharging their duties. There is no protection for the media personnel against such attacks	Ghana Police Service, Ministry of Information and National Media Commission.	The security services should improve the security of media personnel.	Immediately
	Media Targeting	Media personnel are identified in town and confronted for stories they read in the electronic media, or wrote in the print media. It can be very embarrassing to the personnel.	Media Houses	The populace must be educated to know that most often, stories by the media personnel are not their personal positions but they are only doing a professional job.	Immediately
Private Sector	Recognition of the importance of private sector as partner in development	Private sector can create jobs especially for the youth; Development cannot occur without the private sector; The private sector should get more involved in national development and receive support.	Private Sector themselves (because commitment of private sector cannot be imposed. In order to ensure competitiveness, private sector must continue improving the business environment); Government institutions/MD As (because private sector cannot do it alone)	Through creating an enabling environment for private sector. For instance: Improving bureaucratic process (i.e. registration of businesses) Reform in public sector to enhance competitiveness (i.e. designing new tax, interest rate regimes) A complete overhaul of the railway system Improving the provision of utilities especially energy and water Skills enhancement programmes (labour market information/skills database, training)	2014
	Efficient and sustainable agriculture and industry	Detailed issues related to the concern are: food security and food pricing, income for farmers, availability of subsidised	Farmers based organisations and farmers themselves (because these	Through creating an enabling environment. For instance:	2014

		agricultural inputs including fertilisers and the need to increase crop production during the dry season (drought management)	issues affect them.) Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) (because it is their responsibility) Financial Institutions including micro finance networks and banks (because farmers cannot improve yields without receiving support from them)	Improving bureaucratic processes Improving feeder roads Improving irrigation Reducing post-harvest losses (especially marketing and warehouse and processing) Improving credit availability Reform in agricultural land administration	
Scientific and Technical Community	Emphasis on quality and relevant tertiary education	Relevant tertiary Education reduces unemployment of graduates Increased productivity Government does not provide avenues to employ graduates	Government	Human resource planning by linking outputs of the tertiary schools to the skills needs of the country. There should be specific indicators to track progress. Create central database for use by all	When graduates get employed within a year after graduation.
	Emphasis on Research & Development	Research & Development- activities should be undertaken to help reduce poverty	Government		When the proportion of national budget that goes into Research & Development increases
	Absorption of Research output	Policy makers can use research output to inform policy decisions	Government	Make use of research findings to design policies and plans	When research output is used in public decision making and in business
	Data Management , storage and packaging; and availability for policy makers.		Government	Establishment of data management centres	When data management centres are established
	Innovative use of technology to improve sanitation and waste management	Sanitation-Because it cuts across all areas; prevents diseases; reduces proportion of the labour force that falls sick and thus increases productivity	Government		When all the waste generated is properly managed and disposed
	There should be more effective laboratories	Laboratories-Because relevant data can be obtained from these facilities	Government		When all the laboratories in the countries are made to conform to ISO standards.
PWDs	Education and Skills Training for	Lack of schools with facilities for the PWDs.	Ghana Education Service,	Education should be accessible to all and vocational training provided including tools and	When education is improved and tailored to meet the peculiar needs of

	PWDs	Buildings are not accessible. Teaching and learning facilities for PWDs are not available	Ministry of Education, Member of Parliament, District Chief Executive and NGOs	materials. The Ministry of Education should ensure that a Braille press is available. There should be sponsorship for them.	PWDs. When PWDs are assisted to pay for educational and other access fees and for their medical accessories related to their disability.
	Employment	No information on job opportunities. Lack of skills to engage in a trade.	District Assembly, Department of Labour and Social Welfare	Information about jobs should be provided regularly and communicated to PWDs. Government should create jobs for PWDs.	When PWDs are employed or given the chance to work to earn incomes and look after their families
	Financial Support	Not able to afford loans or credit to start up their own business or to expand existing ones. No money to take care of themselves since they do not have caregivers.	Member of Parliament, Government of Ghana, Common Fund Administrator and District Chief Executive	Increase financial support to the PWDs, e.g. From 2% to 3% of funds the central government provides to the local governments Loans should be provided for PWD to engage in trade.	When PWDs have access to loans to do their own business and take care of themselves
	Mobility and Transport	Buildings are not disability friendly	Parliament of Ghana, Member of Parliament, District Assembly and NGOs	Buildings should be made more accessible The Disability Law should be passed and implemented Mobility aids should be provided	When PWDs are able to go anywhere without assistance from care givers
	Health	Hospital bills are quite high and they find it difficult to pay	National Health Insurance Authority, Ministry of Health, District Assembly	Free Registration of PWDs under the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) Sign interpreters should be placed at health centers	When PWDs are able to go to hospitals and pay their bills
	Inclusion	PWDs are often left out in decision-making.	Parliament of Ghana, President, Government	PWDs should be included in decision making at all levels	When PWDs are recognized in society and consulted as partners in decision making and national development.
Development Partners	Health (HIV/AIDS, Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT) and maternal health)	Issues such as health specifically HIV/AIDS and maternal mortality could be a drag on Ghana's middle income status. There is a shortage of ARTs in Ghana so Ghanaian pharmaceutical manufacturers should be given licenses to locally produce these drugs.	Ministry of Health/Ghana Health Service	Improve monitoring and evaluation	Medium term. Availability of Anti-Retroviral Therapies (ARTs)
	Water/Sanitation	Indiscriminate disposal of refuse and littering in cities.	Environmental protection agency	Education, sensitization/change in attitude, privatization of solid waste treatment,	Medium term Improved disposal of solid waste
	Illegal Mining	Recent spate of illegal mining and surface mining all over the country calls for urgent action	Ministry responsible for Lands and Natural Resources	Local authorities/districts to manage and monitor the activities of illegal miners	Short term Mining and illegal mining activities being monitored and reported.
	Potable	Water supply is not able	Ghana Water	Good management of our water	Medium term Improved

	Water	to meet the demand partly as a result of poor management and illegal tapping of water.	Company	system	water supply to towns and communities
	Education (Polytechnics, ICT)	Education is important but promotion of technical skills through polytechnic education, especially in ICT is very important in light of technical skills shortages in Ghana.	Ministry of Education	Encourage private investment in Education especially private Polytechnics and Upgrade them into Universities.	Long term More and well equipped polytechnics being built or established
	Energy (Solar, Wind)	With the current trend of power outages, it is important to explore other sources of energy and one good option based on our environmental considerations is solar energy.	Ministry of energy	Encourage private sector investment in energy	Long term Increased investment in solar and other renewable sources of energy.
	Good Governance (Stability, vulnerability and accountability)	Well-functioning local manufacturing industries are lacking in Ghana even though Ghana is now a middle-income country.	Good governance	Structural transformation of the economy; Increased manufacturing industries	Medium term Increased number of well managed local manufacturing industries.
Government Agencies	Poverty Reduction	Because the gap between the rich and poor continues to widen. Non-targeting of the poor is our bane. Though Ghana has achieved MDG1, inequality remains among geographical regions and hence the need for re-targeting.	National Development Planning Commission; Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning	Review, readjust and retarget interventions; non-politicisation of poverty reduction interventions	10 years
	Integration of Population dynamics into National Development Plan	For effective national planning population growth should match economic growth. When this is not done we get a poverty gap. Hence there is a need for population control to maximize the benefit of economic growth.	National Population Council; National Development Planning Commission; Ghana Statistical Service	Population dynamics and distributions should be factored into planning agenda especially at the District Assembly level	10 years
	Access to modern forms of energy in rural areas	There is low access to renewable forms of energy in the rural and urban areas.	Ministry of Energy; Energy Commission	Research; Development of a master plan for improved energy use	10 years Availability of an energy sector master plan and access to renewable sources of energy across the country
	Public Accountability and Transparency	The perception of corruption continues to increase among the populace. Poor monitoring and evaluation of development interventions. No grievance procedures for poor services and whom to hold accountable in such instances etc. Effective and efficient leadership at all levels is required.	Office of the President; Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ); Judiciary; Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development; General Public	Strengthening of public institutions (resources, capacity building for employees, etc.); Public education/awareness creation on importance of public accountability	3 years Reduced perception of corruption, monitoring system in place
	Vulnerability and Social Exclusion	The poorest of the poor have no voice in decision making for them to be heard for their issues to be addressed.	Ministry of Gender, Social Protection and Child Services; Department of	Retarget vulnerable groups	10 years When poor people have a voice in decision making

			Social Welfare		
	Climate Change/ Disaster Risk Management	Flooding, disaster e.g. Melcom disaster.	National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO); Ministry of Interior	Research into extent and trends of change from which planning and implementation can be done; Increase funding for disaster management	10 years Research on Disaster trends available and effective mitigation plans developed
	Maximisation of benefits derived from output of natural resources	Benefit derived by country is low given the vast distribution of minerals and other natural resources in the country. If Government and Ghanaians are not involved in the process to ensure vigilance and knowledge transfer.	Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources; Parliament of Ghana	Passage and Implementation of Local Content Bill; Capacity building for institutions, which manage natural resources; Government should increase its shares in the exploitation and production of mineral resources	5 years Increased benefits from natural resources to Ghanaians
	Access to quality basic education	Lack of infrastructure, logistics and qualified teachers at the basic level	Ministry of Education; Ghana Education Service	Attractive remuneration for teachers; Provision of educational logistics and infrastructure	10 years Improved infrastructure and increased number of qualified teachers at the basic level
	Access to quality healthcare	Quality health care has become the preserve of the rich who are able to afford it at private hospitals. But the public health institutions established to take care of the poor are lacking such quality services.	Ministry of Health; Ghana Health Service	More research into common diseases affecting the populace; training of healthcare service providers; practice preventive healthcare	15 years Improved healthcare services at public health institutions and provide adequate and better trained health care professionals at these facilities
	Use of traditional knowledge, culture, norms, etc. in addressing issues of development	How to use traditional knowledge to solve problems in complementing the use of ICT or Science & Technology. A time management culture needs to be improved and inculcated for development.	Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts; Ministry of Chieftaincy and Traditional Affairs	Encourage the use of traditional knowledge to complement ICT and Science and Technology to address development issues	5 years The utilization of traditional knowledge to complement science and technology for addressing developmental challenges
	Poor integration of environmental and energy issues in national planning and Budgeting Process	Once these are not mainstreamed in plans, it will not be budgeted for, and not picked up in the monitoring and evaluation process making it lost in the entire process.	Ministry of Energy; Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning; National Development Planning Commission	Allocate more funds for research; Effective monitoring	5 years Environmental and Energy Sector challenges reflected in National Developmental Agenda and Plans as well as fiscal policy documents
	Environmental sustainability including Sanitation	Improve environmental sustainability at all levels	Ministry of Lands and Forestry; Environmental Protection Agency	Implementation of Land Use Policy; Cost-Benefit Analyses of mining areas occupied by forests; Enforcement of mining laws	15 years Improved land-use in mining areas and reduction in environmental degradation.
	Unemployment	Schools are producing graduates and skills trained personnel who end up being unemployed.	Ministry of Employment; NYEP; Office of the President	Empower people with technical skills to set up their own businesses; Private sector should create jobs; We need to grow manufacturing industries through investment	5 years Increased employment opportunities being provided by private sector, young people and government.

	Access to justice for the poor and vulnerable	Crowding in the courts and the cost of justice makes justice a luxury for the rich. So the poor are not able to afford justice. People are in police custody for years because they cannot have access to a lawyer to have a day in court.	Ministry of Justice; Attorney General's Department; CHRAJ; Legal Aid Scheme	Strengthen legal institutions to be able to reach vulnerable groups; provision of logistics and infrastructure for courts/ entire judicial system; education of vulnerable groups on their rights to justice; strengthening of the Legal Aid Scheme	Improved access to justice for the poor and vulnerable
	Macro-economic stability	Effective management of macro-economic indicators such as inflation, exchange rates etc. is very necessary for development	Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning	Government should reduce over-spending	Annual improvements in the macro-economic indicators
	Lack of a National Long Term Plan/Vision	No targeted long term plan hence the country does not have an adequate focus relating to where it wants to be say, in 50 years' time	Government NDPC Parliament of Ghana	Make NDPC independent. Each ruling government should be obliged to draw its manifesto from the Long Term Plan. Strategies and emphasis may differ, but overall, the cumulative effect is to achieve the agreed targets in an agreed period say, 50 years.	NDPC made an independent organ of state, political parties required to draw their manifestoes and policies from the national long term plan
	Housing in the Urban areas	Workers of government agencies are all trying to build their own homes because of inconveniences associated with renting a house (i.e. problem with landlords). The result is that they are building at the outskirts of the urban centres, which means they have to travel long distances to reach their offices. They are often exhausted by the time they get to the office thereby affecting productivity.	Ministry of Work and Housing	Government should provide affordable housing in urban centres for government workers.	5 years Housing schemes for workers developed and institutionalized, workers able to access and meet their housing needs
CONSULTATION DOCUMENTATION					
Stakeholders		Documentation (please attach relevant docs, photos, video links etc.)		Validation method	
Socio-economic stakeholders in the three Northern Regions		Rapporteur's Report, Video recording, pictures ATTACHED		Presentation of group reports at the plenary for discussion and adoption	
Community Focus Group Discussions targeting the poor and marginalised Communities		Rapporteur's Report, Video recording, audio recordings, pictures ATTACHED		Presentation of group reports at the plenary for discussion and adoption	
Consultations with Professional groups (Socio-economic stakeholders at the national level)		Rapporteur's Report, Video recording, audio recordings, pictures ATTACHED		Presentation of group reports at the plenary for discussions and adoption	
Social media consultations		Report and screen shot of contributions		Facebook interaction and validation	
Representatives of all Stakeholders in all the three four types of consultations invited to the Validation Workshop		Rapporteur's Report, Video recording, audio recordings, pictures ATTACHED		Workshop to validate the main findings of the consultations. Findings were presented for discussions and adoption	
Assessment of Feedback from Stakeholders:					
Stakeholder A(group/region/section): Priorities, trends, emerging issues				ATTACHED	
Stakeholder B (group/region/section): Priorities, trends, emerging issues				ATTACHED	
CONSULTATION RESULTS					
2-3 page summary: UNCT/RC's take on the overall themes that came up via the consultations. What were the areas of consensus and divergence amongst the different stakeholders? ATTACHED					

How can we build on the consultations?	
Items on the National Development agenda:	<p>UN through the use of United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) has ongoing programmes to support the Government of Ghana in various areas. The findings of the consultations will inform that process.</p> <p>The National Development Planning Commission is in the process of preparing a national vision and a medium-term national development policy framework. The data generated through the national consultations will be utilised as inputs into the process.</p> <p>A data base of names and contact addresses of the participants has been created for use in national consultation for future policy formulation, planning, monitoring and evaluation.</p>
Emerging cross-border/(sub)regional issues:	<p>The presence of nomadic herdsmen from the West Africa sub-region was a concern raised by farmers in the savannah vegetation zone of the country. Farmers complained of destruction of their farms by the cattle belonging to these herdsmen who are often armed.</p> <p>Presence of illegal gold miners from Asia was also raised as a concern. They are engaged in surface mining resulting in the destruction of farms, land and water bodies. Some of them are armed and therefore cannot be easily confronted.</p>
Priorities for the Global Development agenda:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty Reduction and job creation 2. Reducing inequalities i.e. better targeting of social protection interventions 3. Employment for all, including PWDs 4. Quality education for all up to the secondary level 5. Access to quality health services for all 6. Adequate environmental sanitation and potable water for all 7. Elimination of infrastructure bottlenecks that affect economic and social activities for all people 8. Sustainable development/ Environmental sustainability 9. Strengthening institutions for national and international governance 10. Addressing climate change and its consequences 11. Development financing for poorer nations and for the private sector 12. Food security for all 13. Special support for PWDs to live independent lives 14. Universal social pension schemes for the older people 15. Urbanisation and slum upgrading 16. Population management 17. International migration
Additional Comments, Observations:	

Some tips for reporting on national consultations:

Do's	Avoid
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use peoples' own words where possible to describe development priorities and challenges. • Include narratives and stories about people's development experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putting peoples experiences into "development jargon" • Developing or referring to complex conceptual

frameworks to explain multi-sectoral challenges

- *Include quotes without names but with description
“member of the private sector” “rural woman” etc*
- *Disclosing identity unless there is prior authorization to
do so.*
- *Use people’s experience to explain policy failures and
gaps*
- *Over-generalizing key messages*