

2012 NPP MANIFESTO

TRANSFORMING LIVES, TRANSFORMING GHANA

Highlights

CHAPTER ONE

BUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS OF A FREE AND FAIR SOCIETY

LEADERSHIP MATTERS

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- In this changing, competitive global environment, leadership holds the answer to the success of a nation. Weak, ineffective and visionless leadership is a sure way to become a failed state.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

- Our leader and Presidential Candidate, Nana Akufo-Addo, is competent, committed, experienced, honest, and has a clear vision to lead the transformation of Ghana.
- The agenda of transforming Ghana requires a presidency that will act as the force in driving the public sector and encouraging the private sector; a presidency that will provide the vision, direction and inspiration for us, Ghanaians, to excel. What the NPP is offering is a leadership that will deliver. We will govern with decisive action plans and timetables, and allocate resources prudently. We will, develop and implement policies, monitor the results and be prepared to take corrective action to keep the agenda on track. We will lead this country from hopelessness to prosperity.

GOOD GOVERNANCE MATTERS

• THE CHALLENGE

- Governance not only matters, it is critical in ensuring a country that works. Our inability to entirely break the bounds of poverty can be blamed on poor governance and how we do things. We definitely must change from a system that reinforces strong men to one that encourages and facilitates strong institutions.

• WHAT WE WILL DO

- We will respect and protect Media freedom and make it easier to access the information machinery of the state. We are committed to and will support the passage of the Freedom of Information Act.
- We will strongly support a strengthened and truly independent judiciary to deliver justice to all to keep our democracy intact. We will expand capacity in the judiciary with training to enhance the dignity and integrity of the profession.
- We will tackle Corruption through a principled leadership that sees protecting the public purse as its firm duty. We will also introduce institutional reforms that will enhance the autonomy, confidence and funding of statutory anti-corruption institutions.
- We will strengthen the Attorney General's department and significantly increase the number of prosecutors in the regions to speed up justice delivery.
- We will vigorously pursue the National Decentralisation Plan.
- To optimise and ensure consistency in our economic policies and our developmental aspirations we will re-emphasise the central role of the NDPC in the coordination of national economic and development planning.
- We will put back on course the National Addressing System and the National Identification Scheme to enable us plan effectively our development.

ACCESS TO GOOD QUALITY EDUCATION MATTERS

• THE CHALLENGE

- Our education system is in serious crisis. Out of a 100 of our children that start kindergarten, only 71 end up in primary school, only 65 will go up to junior high school. Out of that, only 35 progress to senior high school and only 3 will end up in university. At all stages, many of our children fall out either because they cannot afford to go on or they drop out for other reasons.

• WHAT WE WILL DO

- The aim at the pre-tertiary levels is to get all our children to be functionally literate, numerate, ICT competent, and equipped for the job market and/or further education with greater sense of civic responsibility. At the higher level, we aim to equip our youth with analytical and competency based skills that will be needed for the transformation of the economy. In this regard an emphasis on science and technology is also critical as we transform our economy.

Our specific initiatives in the education transformation agenda will include the following:

1. A **Teachers First Policy** focused on raising the support and quality of our teachers through monitored and evaluated training and professional development, and improved incentives.
3. **Redefinition of Basic Education** to extend free Senior High School education to every child. Basic education will be redefined as from kindergarten up to and including SHS.
4. **Free Universal Secondary Education** fully committed to making secondary education free for every Ghanaian child. By free SHS we mean free tuition, admission, textbook, library, science centre, computer, examination, utilities, boarding and meals.
5. **The 3 Rs (Reading, WRiting & ARithmetic) and ICT Proficiency** in concert with our teachers through monitored programs and assessments. This will ensure that basic education provides every Ghanaian with adequate literacy, numeracy and basic ICT skills after six years of schooling.
6. Vocational, Technical Skills Training and Apprenticeship to introduce and improve upon existing skills training programmes to give our young people the practical skills they need to get a job as well as to drive a new industrialised economy.
7. **Infrastructure Expansion and Improvement to** undertake a major expansion and overhaul of educational facilities and support provision of innovative forms of education delivery and teaching aids, including modern laboratories and libraries.
8. **Science, Technology and Innovation** to enable us train more scientists and technologist who can bring innovation into the real economy through research.

QUALITY HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTER

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- Too many Ghanaians die, needlessly. Currently, access to good quality health care is poor and too expensive. We are also faced with the scourge of fake medicines entering our markets and further complicating our health challenges.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

- Our focus will be to implement policies that will ensure nationwide access to basic primary and quality healthcare delivery, and in partnership with the private sector. Additionally we need to solve the problem of inadequate first class facilities and health personnel. Some of our policy initiatives will include the following:
 1. **Public health and sanitation** to refocus on tackling the causes of this and significantly reducing the impact of malaria.
 2. **Health Financing** to encourage other health insurance schemes and private sector participation in financing health access.
 3. **Maternal and Child Morbidity and Mortality** to implement the original Kufuor policy of free maternal healthcare and free healthcare for less than 18 years old under the NHIS.
 4. **Mental Health** to pay more attention to mental health and help people with mental diseases to return to good health and contribute to society.
 5. **Community Nursing and Health** to ensure that every deprived community have a Community Nurse. These Nurses, with a small and basic surgery, will be responsible for primary healthcare in the beneficiary community.

HOUSING MATTERS

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- Ghana currently has a housing deficit estimated at over 1,500,000 units with an increase in demand of over 70,000 housing units annually. It is estimated that more than 50% of Ghanaians live in sub-standard houses, deprived inner city dwellings, uncompleted houses, containers, shops, kiosks and other unsuitable structures.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

The NPP Policy on housing has three objectives i) to improve affordability and access to decent homes for all working Ghanaians and their families in new modern communities, ii) develop social housing programs to address the housing needs of vulnerable and marginal groups iii) provide improve infrastructure and the quality of life in our existing communities.

Accordingly, we will, i) promulgate the National Housing Policy, which will provide the overall policy framework for the industry, ii) establish a Housing Agency dedicated to facilitating the role of the private sector players (e.g. GREDA) in delivering both mass social, low and mid-income housing schemes across the country ii) encourage the private sector to partner with Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies to build affordable rental units across the country.

We will seek to increase the national housing delivery to at least 100,000 units annually by the end of a first term.

A key priority for us in 2013 will be the immediate completion of the 5,200 units of houses started when the NPP was in power and totally abandoned by the current government to provide accommodation for our teachers, nurses, civil servants and security agencies among others.

HOUSING MATTERS

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- Ghana currently has a housing deficit estimated at over 1,500,000 units with an increase in demand of over 70,000 housing units annually. It is estimated that more than 50% of Ghanaians live in sub-standard houses, deprived inner city dwellings, uncompleted houses, containers, shops, kiosks and other unsuitable structures.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

The NPP Policy on housing has three objectives i) to improve affordability and access to decent homes for all working Ghanaians and their families in new modern communities, ii) develop social housing programs to address the housing needs of vulnerable and marginal groups iii) provide improve infrastructure and the quality of life in our existing communities.

Accordingly, we will, i) promulgate the National Housing Policy, which will provide the overall policy framework for the industry, ii) establish a Housing Agency dedicated to facilitating the role of the private sector players (e.g. GREDA) in delivering both mass social, low and mid-income housing schemes across the country ii) encourage the private sector to partner with Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies to build affordable rental units across the country.

We will seek to increase the national housing delivery to at least 100,000 units annually by the end of a first term.

A key priority for us in 2013 will be the immediate completion of the 5,200 units of houses started when the NPP was in power and totally abandoned by the current government to provide accommodation for our teachers, nurses, civil servants and security agencies among others.

CHAPTER TWO

Economic Transformation And Our Industrialization Agenda For Prosperity And Job Creation

The Challenge

Ghana's economy is structured around the export of raw materials. We still export our gold, cocoa, fruits and our new found oil in their raw state. We cannot indefinitely rely on this structure and these exhaustible resources to grow our economy and modernise our country.

What We Mean By Economic Transformation

Transforming the economy will mean instead of just exporting our natural resources and raw materials we will add value for higher revenue by industrialising and adding value.

By industrialising our economy we will facilitate significant job creation by the private sector. Above all, we will ensure that the private sector is the real engine of growth that will create opportunity and jobs for all, whilst Government will provide the strategic leadership and enabling environment to make this transformation happen.

What We Will Do to Industrialize

- Increasing agricultural production and adding value to our products through agro processing
- Supporting and promoting our industries, especially small- and medium scale entrepreneurs and businesses to be competitive in import substitution and exports.
- Developing and adding value to our natural resources, including oil and gas, salt, gold, bauxite, iron ore, manganese and our agricultural products.
- Promoting high-value services, including penetration of ICT services, financial services, education, health and tourism, all for which Ghana is competitive.
- Supporting and making Ghana the pharmaceutical manufacturing centre for the sub region and beyond.

How We Will Transform Ghana's Economy

1. Formalization of the Economy

The highly informal nature of our economy has resulted in a narrow tax base, encourages indiscipline and inhibits job creation.

The NPP will formalize our economy by:

- Completing the National Identification system
- Undertaking comprehensive mapping of the entire country with the objective of improving the planning and land tenure systems, bringing all lands under the formal sector
- Completing the national property addressing and secure a sustainable titling programme
- Moving from a cash economy to electronic payments
- Establishing economic growth poles or “economic clusters” to fertilize integrated business growth and job creation. These will be done through programmes like the Zongo (inner city) Development Fund and the Northern Development Programme

How We Will Transform Ghana's Economy

2. A Trade Policy That Creates Jobs

- We have a tariff regime designed to maximise revenue but which in fact damages local industry and as a result Ghana's economy. The short-term revenue gains from such taxes are attained at the expense of long-term production and jobs. Consequently many of our SMEs are not in production and industry, where they can and should be.
- We will review tax laws to reduce costs of equipment and imported raw materials for manufacturing, health, ICT, real estate, etc.
- We will implement a trade policy that works for Ghana in creating jobs and is attractive and reassuring to the investor.
- We will also focus on Commercial diplomacy to open up markets for our goods and services. We will transform the Tariff Advisory Board into an independent Ghana International Trade Commission to deal with unfair trade practices.
- We would implement measures to improve the efficiency of the ports and enhance revenue collection at the same time.

How We Will Transform Ghana's Economy

3. Growing the Private Sector, growing your business.

- We will support Ghanaian enterprises to be competitive globally.
- We will reduce the overall cost of doing business and make Ghana attractive as an investment opportunity by streamlining bureaucracy, and achieving macroeconomic stability
-
- We will implement fiscal and monetary policies to bring down interest rates and improve access to credit
- We will also implement measures to stabilize the exchange rate of the Ghana cedi
- Reliable infrastructure and a sound regulatory framework.

How We Will Transform Ghana's Economy

4. Strengthening the Financial Sector

- We will implement financial sector reforms aimed at encouraging savings, deepening the capital markets to make affordable long-term finance available to businesses, and bringing efficiency in the way we transact business.
- We will encourage the setting up of credit unions for teachers, health workers, security agencies, civil and public servants, etc. as an alternative to established banking institutions.
- We also need to facilitate inclusion of the unbanked by the use of ICT and by encouraging mobile banking and growing online and telephone banking services.
- We will intensify our reforms to transform Ghana from a cash-only economy to an electronic payments based economy.

How We Will Transform Ghana's Economy

5. Reforming Public Financial Management

- We will implement reforms to address corruption and enhance efficiency in management of public finances. We will close the loopholes in the Public Procurement Act and administration to ensure value for money and transparency in the award of contracts.
- We will strengthen the Auditor General's Department, as well as, the Controller and Accountant General's Department to make them more efficient agencies for governance and accountability.

How We Will Transform Ghana's Economy

6. Fiscal Policy

- We will implement a transparent and comprehensive tax policy that is designed to facilitate economic growth whilst also ensuring efficiency, responsibility and accountability in government expenditure. In this regard the NPP will introduce a Fiscal Responsibility Act to enforce the prudent management of Ghana's public finances.

How We Will Transform Ghana's Economy

7. Education, Skills and Apprenticeships

- Improving access to quality Education, especially in Science, Technology and Research
- Providing skills training and apprenticeships for the youth

How We Will Transform Ghana's Economy

8. Infrastructure Development

- Developing an aggressive infrastructure program focused on value-for-money integrated development planning. Ghana needs an integrated approach to improving power supply, housing, roads, railways, water, irrigation, ports, industrial centres, and refineries.

CHAPTER THREE

PUBLIC INVESTMENT TO PROVIDE BASIC AMENITIES AND SUPPORT JOB CREATION

INFRASTRUCTURE

• THE CHALLENGE

- As a nation we have not invested wisely and enough in infrastructure. We have also accumulated a stock of incomplete and neglected infrastructure projects, which have proved a waste of scarce resources. Lack of coordinated, and integrated planning means that investments have been sporadic, not synchronised and not thought through enough. As our population has grown, our infrastructure has not kept pace with the demands of our people drastically impacting on the quality of life and the cost of business and economic activity.

• WHAT WE WILL DO

- Our focus will be to invest prudently in public works in the following areas:
 1. **Transport** : we will seek to integrate and consolidate all modes of transportation to improve efficiency and cut down costs.
 2. **Roads**: In partnership with the private sector, we will develop interchanges, flyovers and overpasses in our urban areas to deal with the costly incessant traffic whilst connecting all the regional capitals with first class roads.
 3. **Railways and Ports**: we will in partnership with the private sector, establish a modern rail network that will have strong economic linkages. We will link the North to the South (through the Eastern corridor Accra through Akosombo to Kumasi and then to Paga) to facilitate the exploitation of our iron ore reserves in the north.
 4. **Aviation**: We will, in partnership with the private sector, establish Ghana as a hub for air travel in West Africa by building a new international airport.

WATER

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- We are faced with poor water supplies in both urban and rural areas. Our water system is antiquated and saddled with frequent breakdowns in supply and needs serious investment.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

1. We will implement a strengthened National Water Policy, which will greatly improve supply, hygiene and sanitation.
2. We will ensure that every Ghanaian has access to clean, potable water.
3. We will continue the program of the Kufuor government, which undertook major water systems improvements nationwide including Cape Coast, Mankessim, Koforidua, Kumasi, Kwanyaako, Ada, Sogakope and Tamale. Over 9,000 new boreholes and 500 new pipe water systems were initiated.
4. To further improve the supply of water, we will construct more dams along some of our major rivers, build a second water treatment plant in the lower Volta basin and ensure more Ghanaians have access to potable water.
5. We will ensure the water sector gets the investment it needs by dramatically cutting down on nonrevenue water and empowering the PURC to effectively oversee the water delivery system in the country to ensure Ghanaians get value for money.

ENERGY TO ACCELERATE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE

• THE CHALLENGE

- The poor quality and supply of energy shown by the frequent power cuts and the consequent slowing down in the growth of the non-oil economy is a cause for worry. Without stable and reliable energy, our industrial development and expansion efforts will fail and hinder our ability to transform the economy.
- Our generation reserve is abysmally low around 6% against a minimum of 18% to ensure stable and constant supply of power.

• WHAT WE WILL DO

- Power Sub-sector:** We will work with the private sector to increase output and will reopen negotiations with interested partners to develop and complete the mini-hydro power projects such as Pwalugu, Juale, Pra, Ankobra and Tano. We will also work to exploit our gas resources to increase our energy supply. By the end of 2016 we aim to extend rural access to electrification to 90%.
- We will also focus on good governance in the sector, to remove inefficiencies, and facilitate effective autonomy and ensure transmission and distribution reliability and security.

ENERGY TO ACCELERATE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE

• THE CHALLENGE

- The poor quality and supply of energy shown by the frequent power cuts and the consequent slowing down in the growth of the non-oil economy is a cause for worry. Without stable and reliable energy, our industrial development and expansion efforts will fail and hinder our ability to transform the economy.
- Our generation reserve is abysmally low around 6% against a minimum of 18% to ensure stable and constant supply of power.

• WHAT WE WILL DO

Power Sub-sector: We will work with the private sector to increase output and will reopen negotiations with interested partners to develop and complete the mini-hydro power projects such as Pwalugu, Juale, Pra, Ankobra and Tano. We will also work to exploit our gas resources to increase our energy supply. By the end of 2016 we aim to extend rural access to electrification to 90%.

- We will also focus on good governance in the sector, to remove inefficiencies, and facilitate effective autonomy and ensure transmission and distribution reliability and security.

On Petroleum Sub-Sector: We will introduce an "Accelerated Oil Capacity Programme" which will target training of Ghanaians in high job creating sectors including fabrications and installation, manufacturing of equipment and construction of oil and gas infrastructure in line with the apprenticeship model.

We will also pursue the development of sources of renewable energy to diversify as well as ensure sustainability of our energy sources for at least a thirty-year period.

Additionally we will make the Western Region the hub of the oil and gas industry by relocating the relevant agencies in the industry from Accra to the Western Region.

DEVELOPING THE NORTH

• THE CHALLENGE

- The Northern regions in Ghana still remain relatively under developed after 55 years of our independence. Whilst having been identified as the most important breadbasket for Ghana development has been very limited. With about 7 million hectares of potential agricultural land with good soil, only about 10% is under cultivation and mainly by small holders.

• WHAT WE WILL DO

- The NPP would provide a dedicated source of financing for the northern development program.
- Abandoned factories such as the Meat Factory in Zuarungu in the Upper East Region will be reactivated as well as other integrated manufacturing activities such as leather making, shoe making and milk production encouraged using bye-products of the meat factory.
- An aggressive irrigation programme will be introduced to reactivate old large and small-scale irrigation projects in the North to ensure all year round agriculture.
- The sheanut, sorghum and cotton industries will receive a boost under our Government. Private sector operators in this sector will be encouraged into through fiscal and tax incentives.
- We will improve infrastructure in the North to ensure that the roads and the railways open up the region to exploit its mineral and agricultural resources and enhance its investment and economic attractiveness
- We will provide incentives to businesses to establish or relocate to the northern regions and enable them compete effectively, which will also generate considerable employment.
- We will also develop the three public universities (including the two that will be established in the Upper West and Upper East Regions) into academic centres for excellence for agriculture, ICT and languages, attracting students from Ghana and beyond.

OUR ZONGOS AND INNER CITY RE-DEVELOPMENTS MATTER

• THE CHALLENGE

- The various “Zongos” and “inner city communities” around the country are seriously underdeveloped and lack basic infrastructure such as roads, water, toilets, good sanitation, schools and health facilities. Very often they seem left behind in any development especially in the urban cities

• WHAT WE WILL DO

- We will work with the communities to upgrade and rebuild their infrastructure, and improve the lives of the residents.
- We will support residents of deprived and neglected areas, and give them the dignity that they deserve, improve their health and enhance the value of their properties.
- We will set up a Zongo and Inner City Re-development Fund to target basic community infrastructure problems.
- The fund will adopt a “developments by the people for the people approach “ which means projects will be community owned and executed by local contractors and labour.

OUR ENVIRONMENT MATTERS

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- Unbridled exploitation of Ghana's resources poses an environmental challenge and a threat to health. The scourge of non-biodegradable plastics, pollution of our beaches and coastal waters, recklessly poor practices of miners, destruction of our water bodies, and poor management of our forest reserves are a source of considerable concern.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

We will invest in environmental conservation and rehabilitation to preserve our bio-diversity, restore degraded land, combat erosion, protect our rivers and other water bodies, and ensure that the environmental impact of mining and oil extraction in Ghana is carefully mitigated.

Our government will embark on an ambitious reforestation programme. This will serve the multi-purpose of protecting the environment, creating immediate jobs for our youth and creating future wealth. We will employ the same concept to use waste to generate electricity in Ghana.

MODERNISING OUR AGRICULTURE AND ENSURING FOOD SECURITY

• THE CHALLENGE

- The agric sector lacks sophistication and is dominated by subsistence farmers. Approximately 3 million smallholder farmers with average farm sizes between 0.5-2 hectares currently produce 95% of the country's food crops. Further, as indicated by the Ministry for Food and Agriculture and AGRA, Ghana faces increasing food security challenges in the near future. This is due to the pervasively fragmented value chain, inefficiency and obsolete farming techniques and equipment in the sector.

• WHAT WE WILL DO

- We will target development in all four of Ghana's breadbaskets to enhance productivity and production in selected food crops (maize and rice) and high value cash crops (horticultural products).
- We shall adapt the integrated approach to the agricultural sector that we proposed and was executed under the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) project. This integrated approach recognizes that the transversal interventions or key constraints affecting the sector will have to be tackled simultaneously to produce a sustained result.

To modernize agriculture within the framework of structural transformation of the economy, we will take the following specific measures as well:

- **Small Scale Farmers:** We will encourage our small scale farmers to adopt new and improved agricultural technologies and seeds, mitigate their over-reliance on rain-fed agriculture through irrigation, provide them with quality and affordable fertilizer and improve land tenure and acquisition.
- **Commercial Agriculture:** we will encourage private sector investments into large-scale commercial agriculture
- **Access to Land for Agriculture:** We are committed to completion of the restructuring of the Land Title Registration and the Land Administration Projects to facilitate the efficient transfer of title and use of agricultural land.
- **Finance:** We will reform security in title to land to make it possible to extend the benefits of micro-lending and other forms of finance to ordinary farmers with limited capital and resources.
- **Infrastructure:** We will create more access roads to our farm-gates and market centres to mitigate post-harvest losses and ensure availability of foodstuff to consumers.
- **Research and Extension services:** We will build on our earlier effort to encourage the modernisation of agriculture through education, research and mechanisation.
- **Irrigation:** We intend to expand irrigation coverage nationwide, especially in the Afram Plains and in Northern Ghana. We will develop and facilitate community-owned and managed facilities like dams, boreholes, and dugouts to expand irrigation.
- **Mechanisation:** We will encourage the establishment of 250 mechanisation centres across the country to provide mechanisation services to farmers at competitive prices.
- **Education, Research and Technology Development:** We will restructure agricultural research institutions to build on the high yielding crop varieties and technologies already developed and provide greater support to farmers.
- **Input support:** The use of fertilisers is low, and less than 5% of farms in Ghana use any added nutrients of any kind, owing to cost and lack of easy availability.
- **Agro Processing:** We will encourage and support agro-processing so that domestic production will compete with imports, with the aim of replacing imports over time and promote exports

FISH AND LIVESTOCK SUB-SECTOR

• THE CHALLENGE

- As a nation we have not done much in developing a livestock industry. However as we transform our nation it will be important to ensure good nutrition for our children and our people by ensuring that we have a sustainable source of protein.

WHAT WE WILL DO

We will implement the following policies, to revive a sustainable fishing industry and ensure good practises and enhanced productivity for our fishermen:

- Identify and collaborate with stakeholders for long-term sustainable fisheries management.
- Allocate additional resources to enforcement of the fisheries management policies, such as the Fisheries Act 625 of 2002
- Provide subsidies for sustainable fishing gear.
- Establish marine protected areas.
- Establish functional scientific advisory committees for each fishery.

POULTRY INDUSTRY

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- The poultry sector in Ghana has been hurting as a result of challenges it faces from imports from North and South America and Europe within the broiler market. This has led to shift of production from broiler to egg production and also witnessed the collapse of farms in the Ashanti, Brong Ahafo and Greater Accra Regions of the country.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

To address these challenges require a holistic policy initiative approach inclusive of targeted and time bound import non-tariff and tariff in combination with measures to assist poultry farms to address cheaper feed ingredients in collaboration with farmers and processors. Our key policies will be the following:

- Short-term measured tariff increases that will result in relative high price for broiler meat whilst providing assistance to poultry farms to make them competitive.
- We will assist poultry farms improve their profitability whilst addressing nutritional needs of Ghanaian children. We will initiate policy for pupils in secondary institutions be fed an egg a day as part of their protein supplements.
-

NON-TRADITIONAL EXPORTS

• THE CHALLENGE

- Ghana has great potential in developing in non-traditional exports especially in the agricultural sector. However due to the problems facing the agricultural sector not much progress has been achieved in developing high value cash crops.

• WHAT WE WILL DO

- Using the MCA model we will focus on a number of identified high value cash crops in which government will support. These include sheanut, pineapples, mangoes and vegetables.
- We will aim at increasing productivity and production to support both export and local processing for consumption and export and develop market support services with support from the private sector and local authorities.

IMPROVING COCOA PRODUCTION

• THE CHALLENGE

- Cocoa farmers in Ghana are presently faced with the challenge of good prices, mass spraying and extension services.

• WHAT WE WILL DO

- We will continue to provide incentives in our cocoa industry through good prices to the producer, bonuses, scholarships to their children, mass spraying and extension service to improve productivity and production. We aim to significantly increase production to a minimum of one million tonnes per annum, while improving the welfare and infrastructure of cocoa farming communities.
- As part of our industrialisation programme, incentives (such as special credit arrangements and tax-breaks) will be put in place to encourage the processing of a significant proportion of the cocoa produced in the country.
- The NPP still has a keen awareness of the central importance of infrastructural development in cocoa growing areas. In our administration, the Cocoa Roads Improvement Project (CRIP) will be restructured, the project will be expanded to cover the remotest areas in cocoa regions, and sources of funding for the project explored.

CONSOLIDATING AND PROTECTING OUR DEMOCRACY MATTERS

- We are committed to a peaceful, stable and democratic Ghana. This begins with peaceful, free and fair elections. We shall continue our enviable tradition of advocating the enhancement of the integrity of the electoral process and calling for public vigilance to protect the ballot of every Ghanaian. We have been successful in our uncompromising push for a biometric voter register and electronic verification at the polling station. As has always happened in the past, we will play our full part to ensure peaceful, free and fair elections in 2012.

NATIONAL SECURITY

• THE CHALLENGE

- There is a growing sense of insecurity in our communities. In our newly developing areas and on our highways, Ghanaians are living under siege from armed robbery and other crimes. There is a deep and profound yearning for a greater sense of personal and public safety, and security for all Ghanaians.

• WHAT WE WILL DO

- The security policy of a new NPP government will be to protect the rights of all citizens, regardless of gender, tribe, ethnicity, language, religious or political beliefs. All citizens are equal before the law. We will also seek the solidarity and cooperation of all citizens in defence of democratic values.
- The security agencies protect us against external and internal threats. They will receive the appropriate incentives to enable them to effectively respond to our growing security challenges. Incentives for the Police, Military, Fire Service, the Immigration Service, Prisons Service and Customs division of the Ghana Revenue Authority will include more barracks and communities, and the promotion of home ownership schemes. Career development and progression will be prioritised.

The Armed Forces

- We will ensure that the Armed Forces possess the capacity to engage effectively in their core function of defending the territorial integrity of the country.

The police

- Our police policy will be to enhance professionalism through better training, better resources and enhanced conditions of service. We will, increase police numbers and make the service more responsive to the people rather than the powers that be.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- The impact of a lack of safety and security on the economy cannot be over-emphasised.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

- The Akufo Addo government will expand the “Justice for All Programme” initiated by the NPP. We will review and enhance the existing Remand Review Project and introduce three other projects: The Sentencing Policy Project, the Prosecutors Project and the Systems and Procedures Analysis Project.

NARCOTICS AND THE ILLICIT DRUG TRADE

• THE CHALLENGE

- Increased use of, and trade in illegal drugs are a major threat to Ghana and our youth. It is also an issue of national security as our nation is used as a transit point.

• WHAT WE WILL DO

We will introduce a robust and comprehensive anti-narcotic drug and anti-organised crime policy and plan. This policy and plan will have four key areas

- **Prevention**
- We will develop a comprehensive inter agency prevention policy aimed at preventing hard drugs from being imported into Ghana and also preventing Ghana from being used as a trans-shipment point.
- **Sanctions**
- A thorough review of the existing sanctions regime will be undertaken. This will prioritise stiffer punishment and the improvement of the legal regime relating to recovery of proceeds of crime.
- **Education**
- A comprehensive drugs education policy will be developed and implemented. This will be targeted at youth in particular and the public in general.
- **Rehabilitation**
- Only by tackling drug addiction will we reduce internal demand for drugs. The possibility of expanding existing institutions and co-operating with religious groups and civil society to fight drug addiction will be explored in addition to a new policy to address drug and organised crime issues.

WORKING AGAINST CORRUPTION

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- There is intense public anger over the unprecedented levels of corruption the nation is witnessing under the Mills-Mahama government. Among the major corruption issues are deliberate criminality, bad public sector governance, poor management practices, weak law enforcement, payments of dubious judgment debts and questionable settlements.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

- We will usher in a new and principled commitment to fight corruption and for the prudent use of public funds.
- We will fight corruption with renewed vigour, honesty and integrity. The NPP will give all relevant institutions, a new confidence and professional freedom to fight corruption effectively.
- Our policy will be to tackle corruption head on through preventive, corrective and punitive mechanisms. Our anti-corruption policy will be based on three key pillars. These pillars are institutional reform, legislative reform and attitudinal change.

CHAPTER FIVE

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND PROMOTING ENTERPRISE

SPORTS MATTER

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- We currently face deteriorating standards in almost all areas of our sports. Poor management and lack of funding, primarily inhibit sports development and promotion in Ghana.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

- In partnership with the private sector, we will provide stable investment in sports through a Sports Fund and establish sports colleges for academic and professional studies in sports.
- In schools and colleges we will invest in equipment, sports halls, modern pitches and multi-purpose courts, and identify and train and provide incentives for talented sportsmen to pursue higher education.
- We will also increase spending on sports education to improve quality of our sports development.
- We will build on the achievement of the Kufuor Government and continue to build regional stadia in the remaining six regional capitals - Cape Coast, Ho, Sunyani, Wa, Bolgatanga and Koforidua. We will seek private public partnerships in executing this program where possible.

-

THE YOUTH MATTER AND ARE THE BEDROCK OF OUR NATION

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- Ghana's population is young and growing but the labour market is not able to absorb young graduates and non-graduates. Youth unemployment is increasing and many of our youth do not have the skills they need to compete in the job market.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

- The youth employment agenda will focus on breaking into new frontiers of jobs, with higher-level skills that give young people a wide range of exportable services and skills.
- The transformational economic agenda would create opportunities for wide range of knowledge-based jobs, for example in the research and development, and information technology industry
- We will build on the success of past programmes such as Skills Training and Entrepreneurship Programmes (STEP) and the National Youth Employment Programme (NYEP) to ensure that our young people have access to the opportunities they deserve.
- Additionally the following programs will be embarked on to strengthen the positioning of our youth in our development agenda

1. **NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NYDA)**

2. **National Youth Employment Programme**

ARTS AND CULTURE

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- The Arts and Culture industry is a marginalised sector of the Ghana economy. This was evident in the lack of patronage and support from government as well as the little attention given to organizations operating in the sector.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

- We will increase budgetary allocations and needed support to the Ministry of Chieftaincy and Cultural affairs in order to,
- Preserve, sustain and integrate the traditional and cultural values as well as practices to accelerate wealth creation and harmony for total development.
- Support Traditional leaders who are the pivot of our culture and active catalysts in the moral transformation of our society, to be educated in governance
- Formulate a national vision and a unified plan for cultural development in consultation with the various cultural departments.
- Provide mechanisms for the development and promotion of culture, including infrastructure.
- Promote transparency in governance in Arts and Culture

WOMEN MATTER

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- The NPP is committed to the development and welfare of Ghanaian women. Though over 51% of Ghanaians are women, they face historical, social, political and cultural challenges. Currently, women account for less than 10% of people in public office, and only about 8% of Members of Parliament.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

- We will introduce programmes that will encourage and bring women into the mainstream of economic and political activities.
- We will reduce maternal and child morbidity and mortality through the revitalisation of the NHIS, Free Maternal Care and Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP) and breathe life into good quality childcare facilities for nursing mothers at work places, markets and community centres in cities and towns.
- We will liberate women from such oppressive and discriminatory practices as ostracisation of witches in special villages and widowhood rites.
- We will encourage young girls to go to school, stay in school and open up science and mathematics education for girls at all levels of education by enforcing an affirmative action policy

CHILDREN MATTER

• THE CHALLENGE

- Our children are our greatest assets. Research shows that many of our children suffer the effects of poverty, inadequate access to food, safe drinking water, health and lack of quality education. Many are subjected to physical, emotional and sexual abuse. In many of our rural communities children with disabilities still suffer from neglect, denial of access to education and in extreme cases elimination by parents and the community.

• WHAT WE WILL DO

- We will place a considerable premium on the protection of children and their rights.
- We will support the work of implementing agencies to ensure that lead agencies, such as the police, are given the power and resources they need to combat abuse and trafficking, child labour and violence against children.
- We will also make sure that we rationalise and strengthen the practice of data collection and gathering, monitoring and evaluation in the relevant agencies.
- We will additionally strengthen collaboration between agencies and step up education to change obsolete societal and community attitudes.

OUR PENSIONERS AND THE AGED MATTER

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- Our pensioners hold a special place in our country, having served many years in contributing to national development in various capacities. Many of our pensioners and the aged fall into the category of LEAP beneficiaries.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

- We will revive the social protection programmes that the NDC has allowed to deteriorate and restore them from a depressed, inactive state. I
- We will also enter into partnerships with pensioners' associations to protect their welfare and enhance their living standards.
- Pensioners and the aged will be able to enjoy the exemptions they are entitled to from paying premiums under the NHIS and bus fare on the Metro Bus.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITY MATTER

- **THE CHALLENGE**

- Building a society will be incomplete if our government fails to address the needs of the disabled or the physically challenged.

- **WHAT WE WILL DO**

An NPP government will actively encourage all disabled persons to aspire to become economically active and independent. We will, in particular:

- Fast track the implementation of the law on building access for disabled
- Building community based programmes that integrate persons with disability into their communities

CHAPTER SIX

GHANA IN A WIDER WORLD

GHANA IN A WIDER WORLD

- **Economic Diplomacy**

- We will prioritise the development of economic opportunities in our foreign policy. We will pursue opening and emerging markets abroad to encourage investment in our country and the sale of our goods and services.

- **Democracy and Foreign Policy**

- The NPP is a party that is proud of its democratic identity and we will support democracy and the growing trend towards democratisation in all parts of the world. We will act in such a way as to improve democratic governance, and ensure that the rule of law, civil rights and political freedoms are enshrined in constitutions everywhere.

GHANA IN A WIDER WORLD

- **Multilateralism in Foreign Affairs**
- Ghana will defend its national interests, maintain its sovereign independence, and yet take decisions with its more powerful friends, partners and allies without deferring to them.
- **Ghana and ECOWAS**
- NPP government will play a positive role in promoting peace and political stability to ensure the economic and social development of the countries in the region and the security of our people. We will promote dialogue and negotiation as a means of settling disputes and resolving conflicts.
- Recognising the advantages of an expanded market for intra-sub regional trade and economic co-operation, we will work towards the realisation of all the objectives of the West African Economic Community, notably the free movement of people, goods and services.

GHANA IN A WIDER WORLD

• **Ghana and the Africa Union (AU)**

- The NPP believes in the Africa Union (AU). We will do all in our power to make the Union work more efficiently and purposefully for the advancement of the African continent and its people.
- The NPP government will, among other things, champion the ideals of liberal democracy and market-oriented economics continue to play a positive role in the resolution of conflicts and to make our Union more practical and purposeful.

• **Ghana and the Commonwealth**

- We will not waver in upholding the tenets of the Commonwealth of Nations.
- Our continued membership will help foster greater international understanding, and maximise our benefits through economic and technical cooperation and enhance international peace and security.

GHANA IN A WIDER WORLD

- **South-South Co-operation**

- Our government will promote meaningful South-South trade and other forms of co-operation. Our diplomatic missions in Third World countries will accordingly be empowered to vigorously pursue economic-oriented contacts that will facilitate co-operation in trade, investment, science, technology and culture. The experience of South-South nations in oil exploration and development will be tapped to serve our national interest.

- **Ghana and the United Nations Organization**

- Ghana will not falter in her support of the UN and its specialised agencies, international trade and financial institutions like the World Trade Organisation, the World Bank, and IMF etc. We will work long and hard at the UN to create a climate of ideas supportive of national development, particularly in Africa and the Third World, in such areas as international finance, official development assistance, debt relief, trade, health improvement and market access in the developed world for developing countries.

GHANA IN A WIDER WORLD

- **Ghanaians Living Abroad**
- The NPP will continue to welcome to Ghana, people of African descent and make them feel at home. We will develop close social and cultural ties with our kith and kin to our mutual benefit. Our government will reserve a special welcome to those endowed with special skills and resources, which can contribute to the economic and social development of Ghana.
- The granting of dual citizenship has now restored the basic rights of Ghanaians living abroad whom for one reason or another, had to adopt the citizenship of their host countries, and losing their Ghanaian citizenship.

Moving Ghana Forward Together

This document has laid out our vision for the future transformed Ghana.

We believe that we need change now to move our country forward together. We owe it to our children and grandchildren not to throw their future away, but be strong and develop a country we can all be proud of.

On 7 December you will have a choice.

A choice between 4 more years of failed leadership, which has failed Ghana and failed you. 4 more years of weak leadership, corruption, lies, deceit and propaganda. 4 more years of broken promises.

Or a choice for the chance to move Ghana forward. A choice for leadership and the vision to make this country great. A choice for building a society of peace, opportunity and prosperity.

People matter, you matter in making this a reality.