ABOUT GACC
The Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition (GACC) was formed in 2001 by a unique cross-sectoral grouping of public, private and civil society organizations (CSOs) with a focus on promoting good governance and fighting corruption in Ghana.

VISION
A corruption-free Ghana.

MISSION
GACC exists to promote anti-corruption efforts and integrity through:

- Sustained and effective coordination of state and non-state actors
- Strategic partnerships
- Mobilising citizens and citizens’ groups
CONTENTS

00  ANNUAL REPORT
01  ABOUT GACC
01  VISION
01  MISSION
03  LIST OF ACRONYMS
04  1.0. INTRODUCTION
04  1.1. Remarks by GACC Chair
05  1.2. Remarks by the Executive Secretary
06  2.0. REPORT FROM THE PROGRAMMES DEPARTMENT
06  2.1. Educate the Public on the Forms of Corruption and Its Impact on Society
07  2.2. Campaign for the Strengthening of Anti-Corruption Laws, Regulations Policies, Procedures and Systems
09  2.3. Sustained Advocacy for Law Enforcement – Investigation, Prosecution, Sanctions, And Asset Recovery
11  2.4. Build a Vibrant, Robust and Self-Sustaining Coalition
12  3.0. STAFF TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING
13  4.0. CONCLUSION
14  5.0. PUBLICATIONS
15  6.0. FINANCIAL REPORT
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>Accountability Research Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFIC</td>
<td>Africa Freedom of Information Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRAJ</td>
<td>Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSR</td>
<td>Corporate Social Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAS</td>
<td>Ghana Audit Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GHANEPS</td>
<td>Ghana Electronic Procurement System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LANets</td>
<td>Local Accountability Networks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMDAs</td>
<td>Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCCE</td>
<td>National Commission for Civic Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NDC</td>
<td>National Democratic Congress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPP</td>
<td>New Patriotic Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCDS</td>
<td>Open Contracting Data Standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSIWA</td>
<td>Open Society Initiative for West Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPA</td>
<td>Public Procurement Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAAC</td>
<td>Strengthening Action Against Corruption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAR-Ghana</td>
<td>Strengthening Transparency, Accountability and Responsiveness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDGs</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On behalf of the Governing Board of the Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition (GACC) and my own behalf, I present to you the 2020 Annual Report of GACC.

The year 2020 has been quite challenging globally since the emergence of the Covid-19. The sudden occurrence and spread of the COVID-19 in Ghana, presented a challenge for the effective operations of the Coalition, members, and partners. The Executive Council and the Executive Secretary of the Coalition continued to take constructive decisions that created an enabling and a safe environment for programme implementation. The total lockdown and restrictions imposed on some communities during the early part of the year, challenged the CSO Community to launch an internal funding mechanism termed the CSO COVID-19 Fund to support the less privileged and disadvantaged in Accra, Kasoa and Kumasi (affected key COVID-19 lockdown communities) with basic food items and other essentials.

The challenges of COVID-19 on our operations notwithstanding, GACC made some modest gains in respect to our resource mobilization efforts. The year recorded new funding support from the Open Society Foundation (OSIWA), the US Embassy and the Hewlett Foundation amongst others. The funding support enabled GACC to continue its demand for increased transparency and accountability from duty bearers in the management of public funds.

The year also presented an opportunity for the Coalition to innovate new ways of building partnerships and engaging stakeholders within the context of a pandemic.

Finally, I express appreciation to the entire Board of GACC, development partners, stakeholders, members of our Local Accountability Networks (LANets) and the staff of GACC for demonstrating resilience during the COVID-19.
The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic during the reporting year resulted in restrictions which affected the implementation some of the key 2020 planned activities of the GACC Secretariat.

At the same time, our resource mobilization opened new opportunities for programme implementation in West Africa. The Secretariat is currently supporting CSOs Partners in Benin and Sierra Leone to monitor procurement and Audit implementation through a regional funding support from OSIWA.

The year 2020 also saw GACC at the forefront of collective advocacy for enhanced anti-corruption legislation, responsive and accountable governance. The Secretariat collaborated with all relevant stakeholders to promote increased transparency and accountability from duty bearers. Some of the collaborative actions implemented during the reporting year included:

- Collective CSOs statement yielded response from government following call on government to resource the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE), to embark on intense public education on COVID-19 safety protocols
- Joint CSOs Statement on President Akufo Addo’s decision to force the Auditor General to take his ‘accumulated leave’ of 167 days against the Labour Act 2003 (Act 651) and the Constitution of Ghana
- Collective CSOs statement against the procurement of a new electoral register for the 2020 elections by the Electoral Commission.
- Joint press conference by the CSOs platform on SDGs, sub-platform 16 (SDG16) in commemoration of the one-year anniversary of the Ayawaso West Wuogon bye-election violence

The Secretariat expresses profound gratitude to members of the Coalition, the staff, partners as well as the general public for the immense and diverse support that have contributed to the modest success recorded during the year under review. The financial report, outlines the continued support from our development partners towards the attainment of our vision to prevent corruption in Ghana.
2.0. REPORT FROM THE PROGRAMMES DEPARTMENT

During the year under review, the Secretariat implemented the following activities and programmes in alignment with its four (4) strategic priority areas to promote anti-corruption efforts in a systematic, collective, and sustained manner. To achieve success, the four strategic priorities are as follows:

- Strategic Priority 1 – Educate the public on the forms of corruption and its impact on society.
- Strategic Priority 2 – Campaign for the strengthening of anti-corruption laws, regulations policies, procedures, and systems.
- Strategic Priority 3 – Sustained advocacy for law enforcement – Investigation, prosecution, sanctions, and asset recovery.
- Strategic Priority 4 - Build a vibrant, robust, and self-sustaining Coalition.

The activities are in line with objectives under specific projects and each strategic priority.

2.1. Educate the Public on the Forms of Corruption and Its Impact on Society

The manifestation of corruption in Ghana, requires targeted sensitization activities to influence change. In response to the GACC Strategic Priority 1, the Secretariat mobilized and built the capacity of target stakeholders on anti-corruption practices. The Secretariat received grants from the Africa Freedom of Information Centre (AFIC) and UNICEF to embark on interventions with specific activities to enhance best procurement practices in Ghana and improve budget transparency, advocacy, and accountability at the local level.

The Secretariat undertook several initiatives to sensitize the public and key stakeholders on the detriments of corruption. The interventions undertaken along the strategic priority 1 are as follows.

The GACC, as part of its intervention undertook an assessment of procurement data as available on the Public Procurement Authority’s (PPA) website. The findings from the assessment were used to produce a mapping report which was used to engage the PPA for improvement and as well educate the public through radio and TV on some of the red flags in public contracting and advocated for alignment of disclosure of information platforms based on Open Contracting Data Standards and other open data formats. This intervention was funded by the Hewlett Foundation through the Africa Freedom of Information Centre (AFIC). The intervention aimed at strengthening disclosure of contracting data to facilitate citizen’s access to information and participation in public procurement. This will ensure better value for money in public contracts. The second phase of this project which was dubbed “From Impact to Disclosure: Deepening
The intervention aimed at strengthening disclosure of contracting data to facilitate citizen’s access information platforms based on Open Contracting Data Standards and other open data formats. This radio and TV on some of the red flags in public contracting and advocated for alignment of disclosure of The GACC, as part of its intervention undertook an assessment of procurement data as available on the Secretariat undertook several initiatives to sensitize the public and key stakeholders on the detriments local level.

Outcomes
- Produced an assessment report as an advocacy tool for improving procurement best practice
- The findings from the assessment were used to engage the PPA which they committed to consider the findings to improve information disclosure on its procurement website, Ghana Electronic Procurement System (GHANEPS)

Another intervention that commenced during the reporting period is a UNCEF funded project which sought to build the capacity of GACC’s citizen groups, known as Local Accountability Networks (LANets) in 5 selected districts (Ada West District, Asante Akim North Municipal, Ga South Municipal, Gushiegu District & Nsawam Adoagyiri Municipal). Sixty-one (61) LANet members were engaged since the project commenced. Management of the Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) in Project districts were as well engaged. The Project sought to lay the foundation for informed citizen engagement, particularly women and youth, with their local government which the LANets will be equipped on budget presentation, budget advocacy, budget analysis, and budget tracking. This project positioned the LANets as the agency for budget transparency, advocacy and accountability.

Education through TV and Radio

2.2. Campaign for the Strengthening of Anti- Corruption Laws, Regulations Policies, Procedures and Systems

As part of the Secretariat’s aspirations to improve accountability, transparency, and law enforcement, it embarked on an OXFAM in Ghana funded project aimed at promoting equity in tax incentives and tax exemptions in Ghana. This initiative aligns with the GACC strategic priority 2.

The project enhanced dialogue on tax exemptions particularly in relation to Government’s tax breaks or
reliefs for private companies, individuals who donate towards the Covid-19 fund. While tax breaks or reliefs could help the country’s effort at this critical time by providing some measure of relief for the distressed private sector, there are concerns about possible higher revenue losses to large companies as a result. There were also concerns that most donations are from the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) budgets of companies and have therefore been given the required tax reliefs.

Outcomes

- In December, the Secretariat through the Oxfam project commissioned two reports. A report titled ‘Cost-Benefit Analysis of the Covid-19 Tax Reliefs in Ghana’ was launched among stakeholders. The report assessed corporate Covid-19 donations against what the country losses in revenue via the tax breaks and reliefs announced by the Government. The assessment was used as basis to inform national dialogue on taxation.
- The second report titled ‘Political Parties Tax Positions Election 2020’ captured analysis on positions or policies of Political parties (NPP & NDC) on corporate and digital taxation for election 2020. A dissemination workshop was held among journalists to share findings in the reports.

The Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII) led Consortium, in collaboration with the RTI Coalition supported the campaign for the passage of the Right to Information (RTI) Bill through several initiatives including street advocacy, Red Friday campaigns, and media campaigns, coupled with bilateral engagements with Parliament. The passage of the RTI Act, 2019 (Act 989), which occurred on March 26, 2019 with Presidential assent on May 21, 2019, motivated a new campaign for effective implementation of the Act.

The GII Consortium, in collaboration with the Ministry of Information, supported a stakeholders’ workshop
that developed a work plan and roadmap ahead of the 2019 mid-year budget review, to ensure the implementation and operations of the RTI Act by the start of the 2020 financial year when the RTI Act takes effect.

2.3. Sustained Advocacy for Law Enforcement – Investigation, Prosecution, Sanctions, And Asset Recovery

During the year under review, the Secretariat worked with public accountability institutions particularly the Ghana Audit Service (GAS) and the Commission for Human Right and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) to mobilize support for an effective asset declaration regime in Ghana. This initiative aligns with our strategic priority 3. Asset declaration in Ghana finds expression in two main laws—Article 286 of the 1992 Constitution and the Public Office Holders (Declaration of Assets and Disqualification) Act, 1998 (Act 550). Eligible public office holders are required to submit a list of their assets and liabilities to the Auditor General. Article 286 (5) of the Constitution provides details on the specific rank of public officers who are eligible to make declarations. It has however been noted over the years that compliance by public officers to this obligation is quite low, mostly due to ignorance of this obligation and non-enforcement of the laws on asset declaration. The quest to ensure effective asset declaration regime required the three institutions; GACC, CHRAJ and GAS to work together towards reforming and increasing compliance to asset declaration under a STAAC funded project.

Outcomes of the STAAC funded Project

- In October, this project provided a platform for stakeholder training on the navigation of the asset declaration form and compliance to the requirements. Fifty (50) eligible public officers drawn from State owned Enterprises, Bank of Ghana, Judiciary, Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority, Ghana Revenue Authority were trained.

- The project also supported the Ghana Audit Service to develop publicity and educational materials such as brochure, manga, video, and audio that will enable the institution to continue sensitization. Media platforms were used to advocate and educate the public to actively support the asset declaration programme.

- Advocacy for the passage of the Conduct of Public Officers Bill. The Bill is among the anti-corruption laws when passed, will ensure effective asset declaration reforms. The bill has a section on asset declaration that contains clauses related to verification and publication. The project had advocated for inclusion of these elements via media platforms and by petitioning the two major political parties – the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP) and the National Democratic Congress (NDC). The Secretariat also monitored parliamentary proceedings on the bill and made a submission to the Constitutional, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Committee of Parliament. The Committee seriously considered the proposals on verification, publication, explicit sanctions, and electronic declaration.

The Secretariat also supported the demand side local level through its projects for accountability and improved service delivery funded by Hewlett Foundation. The project sought to enhance transparency and accountability in governance by retrieving misappropriated public funds and strengthening public financial systems and institutionalizing citizen-government (Executive, Judiciary and Legislature) engagement for informed deliberations and reforms on anti-corruption and governance issues. Four out of 16 inception meetings were undertaken with the Local Accountability Networks (LANets) in the following districts: Agona West, Mfantsiman, Cape Coast and Sekondi Takoradi.

The Secretariat through its Oxfam in Ghana funded project also collated the citations on disallowance and surcharge related to the Education, Health and Agriculture sectors from the Auditor General’s Special Reports issued between November 2018 and March 2019.
The Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) supported the Secretariat to undertake a scoping study which looked at the issue of corruption in procurement and service delivery in education and health in West Africa, specifically in Sierra Leone, Benin and Ghana. On the other hand, OSIWA supported the Secretariat in an additional project to undertake a scoping study to address the issue of political environment of the three West Africa countries (Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Benin) access to the auditor general’s reports and the strength of civil society to advocate for audit report implementation in the health and education sectors.

Similarly, inception meetings were undertaken in five project districts as part of Accountability Research Centre (ARC) funded project to introduce the community members in the various districts which sought to increase citizen engagements by monitoring citizen engagement commitments in World Bank projects. A baseline assessment was carried out using the ARC’s assessment tool which assessed citizen engagement against the seven commitments laid out by the World Bank in its Citizen Engagement strategy. The assessment revealed some level of commitments on broader consultation however, methods of engagement fail to include specific elaborations to how stakeholders will be targeted and selected to participate. There is no explanation of how the feedback loop will be closed.

Thus, how will feedback or inputs solicited from citizens be integrated to inform project implementation for effective service delivery? The projects did not commit to collaboration with citizens to make project-related decisions, but GACC thinks it significant for inclusion. There was no provision for any third-party monitoring, which is vital for accountability and effective service delivery. The lack of plans for third party monitoring provides part of the motivation for GACC’s independent monitoring, which is why having access to more details about project commitments to CE is essential.
2.4. Build a Vibrant, Robust and Self-Sustaining Coalition

The Secretariat has been at the forefront of collective advocacy for enhanced anti-corruption legislation, and responsive and accountable governance by coordinating CSOs’ initiatives through collective efforts to gather a reaction from government. Some of the collaborative actions implemented during the reporting year included:

- Collective CSOs statement yielded response from government following call on government to resource the NCCE which is mandated institutions to embark on intense public education on COVID-19 safety protocols
- Joint CSOs Statement on President Akufo Addo’s Decision to force the Auditor General to take his ‘accumulated leave’
- Collective CSOs statement on the proposal to procure a new electoral register and its system for the 2020 elections
- Joint press conference by the CSOs platform on SDGs, sub-platform 16 (SDG16) in commemoration of the one-year anniversary of the Ayawaso West Wuogon bye-election violence

A GII led project partnered the Secretariat to jointly engage service providers and the media working towards implementation of Goal 16 to discuss and assess the status of implementation, identified some challenges and achievements in the implementation and future opportunities for Goal 16. This initiative forms part of a STAR-Ghana funded project. As such, a Corruption Risks Assessment in the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals 3, 4 and 16 was undertaken. The Corruption Risk Assessment report was shared among relevant stakeholders in a policy dialogue for appreciation of the various corruption risks identified. On the other hand, a STAR-Ghana project also led by GII, partnered the Secretariat to jointly undertaken initiatives to conduct comparative study of anti-corruption agenda of countries with same political dynamism as Ghana as well engaged in consultative meetings with relevant stakeholders and partners which contributed to the development and launch of a Citizens Anti-Corruption Manifesto to shape up the 2020 Anti-Corruption Agenda of Political Parties’ Manifestoes.
3.0. Staff Training/Capacity Building Programmes

- All GACC staff, volunteers, interns were trained through an Oxfam funded support on Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) on the topic: “Understanding Gender & Sex, Gender and Power”

- All participants were introduced to the GACC’s policies on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) including procedures and reporting mechanisms.
4.0. Conclusion

Major challenges faced during the period under review were related to the outbreak of the Covid-19. The pandemic at its height in Ghana led to months of inactivity as an uncertain future and restrictions on public engagements prevented the organization of inception meetings and other engagements that would have taken place following in line with the annual workplan. This development led to re-negotiation with some donors to readjust the project timelines. The year 2020 has been a mixed reaction year for the Secretariat. It was interesting for the Secretariat to sign eight new contracts with donors and at the same worrying in terms of implementation following the outbreak of the Covid-19. It is hoped that the Secretariat will cover up all the months of inactivity due to the Covid restrictions. Nevertheless, the staff is committed to implementing outstanding activities for the new and ongoing projects to maintain good donor records and relationship to ensure the sustainability of the funding opportunities in the future.
5.0. Publications

The following were published within the period and are available on the GACC website, www.gaccgh.org

Reports
- Cost-benefit analysis of the Covid-19 tax reliefs in Ghana, 2020
- Political Parties Tax Positions Election 2020, 2020
- 2nd Mapping report on Public Procurement Authority’s (PPA) Website, 2020
6.0. FINANCIAL REPORT

DONOR INCOME CONTRIBUTION FOR 2020 FINANCIAL YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLUMN 1</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
<th>AMOUNT (GHc)</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ADAM SMITH/ STAAC</td>
<td>106,891.00</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>OXFAM IN GHANA</td>
<td>405,612.00</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>AFIC</td>
<td>99,289.00</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>OSIWA</td>
<td>260,832.00</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>CDD GHANA</td>
<td>9,000.00</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>HEWLETT FOUNDATION</td>
<td>12,202.00</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>77,090.00</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>OTHER PROJECT INCOME</td>
<td>36,912.00</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1,007,828.00</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPENDITURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>AMOUNT (GHc)</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>PROGRAMMES &amp; ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>761,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>GENERAL &amp; ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</td>
<td>340,738.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,102,138.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PHOTO GALLERY
An overview of the year in photo memoirs