



Volunteer Partnerships *for* West Africa

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PERIOD COVERED

BY THIS COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (2019 FEBERUARY TO JULY 2021)

FROM: 2019 FEBRUARY

TO: 2021 JULY

PART I. STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR EQUIVALENT

To our stakeholders:

I am delighted to announce that our Organization, thus Volunteer Partnership for West Africa (VPWA) reiterates its full backing to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption practices. The communique above is our statement on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. Feedback are cordially welcomed.

Within this Communication of Engagement, we have detailed out and described the activities that VPWA has taken over the period to aid the work of UN Global Compact and its Principles as recommended for organizations like ours.

We also reaffirm our commitment to sharing this information with our partners and stakeholders using our core communication channels. We believe these activities implemented by our organization will go a long way to promote the UN Global Compact and its Principles.

Sincerely yours,

Hayford Siaw

Director, Volunteer Partnership for West Africa, VPWA

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS

Make Free SHS Work for All was an initiative of Volunteer Partnerships for West Africa (VPWA), with support of Open Society Institute for West Africa (OSIWA), with overall *objective to ensure a fair and equal access to free Senior High School education for boys, girls and vulnerable children through increased effectiveness and efficiency in the implementation of the Government of Ghana Free SHS Programme.*

Whilst the overall objective of the initiative remained valid, VPWA was confronted with a global emergency disease that made it impossible to achieve the specific objective in the year 2 implementation of the project.

It must be noted that as of the redesign of the current initiative schools were closed and the President of the Republic of Ghana had given policy directive through a television broadcast on 15th March 2020 for the Ministry of Education to liaise with the Ministry of Communication to run distance learning programmes for all school children in the country.

Since COVID-19 is a global pandemic and easily transmitted from one person to the other, project activities were not undertaken from April 2020. Volunteer Partnerships for West Africa proposed a new dimension to the initial project with the clear objective to support government effort in the delivery of a fair and equal access to distance learning programme for Ghanaian students who had been affected by the pandemic. The following objectives were proposed with each aligned activity.

- a. Increase community and citizen support and participation in the implementation of distance learning in Ghana.
- b. Monitor and Evaluate the inclusiveness, effectiveness of these distance learning initiative of government and support where required

1. Support the Ministry of Education (MoE) to promote the TV, Radio and online learning platforms to students

Activities

Activity 1.1.1. Use appropriate virtual platforms to project info graphic designs on the relevance of the learning platforms put together by MoE to students

Activity 1.1.2. Using bulk SMS approach, we will design an optional eLearning Time Table and broadcast to Parents on weekly basis. This will enable parents' guide their wards to study meaningfully distantly.

2. Provide remote support to students and teachers in optimizing use of the OER provided by the Ministry of Education

Activities

Activity 1. 2. Launch a Virtual Online Workplace group specifically for all Ghana Education Service (GES) accredited Teachers to share ideas and challenges for effective collaboration.

Activity 1.2.2. In collaboration with Educational CSO's and MoE we will develop **elibrary** which uses **new micro-compression technology** to bring thousands of curated, curriculum-based contents to communities who lack reliable infrastructure and internet access to ensure effective distance learning.

Activity 1.2.3. Work with Ghana Library Authority to organize Virtual-Reading Challenge (VRC) with focus on the Ghana Education Service content for schools.

3. Monitor and Evaluate the inclusiveness, effectiveness of these distance learning initiative of government and support where required

Activities

Activity 1.3.1. Provide a virtual and online based M&E orientation and capacity building for project stakeholders to monitor project activities and organize feedback (Online M&E organized on quarterly basis)

Activity 1.3.2. In Partnership with CSO's and the MoE we will assist to organize a virtual Integrated Continues Professional Development (CPD) capacity building training programmes with focus on MoE's curriculum for 500 teachers selected from less resourceful schools.

Activity 1.3.3. We will assist MoE to design a virtual assessment interviews after each CPD to document feedback and develop improvement strategies for effective online engagement.

TARGET BENEFICIARIES

1. Children: Through the effective monitoring and advocacy work of VPWA, the project will ultimately benefit Ghanaian children who have completed and passed their Basic Education Certificate to have a fair and equal access to Free Senior High School education.

2. Citizens: Greater access to information from duty bearers, as well, platforms for citizens to share on the ground information for the attention of stakeholders through the radio, web and mobile apps and social media.
3. Civil Society: Civil society groups capacity will be built to demand accountability from duty bearers as well to advocate for fair share of resources through the various training and interface meetings that will be organised by VPWA.

PART III. MEASUREMENT OF OUTCOMES

1. Improved Implementation procedures and systems of Virtual Engagement programme for over 6,000 Students Senior High Schools
2. Increased citizens' access to education during the pandemic through virtual means
3. Education of citizens through an active social media campaigns about the effectiveness of virtual learning and education on the impact of COVID
4. Government of Ghana Virtual Education during this new normal effectively and efficiently, providing equal opportunity for boys, girls and vulnerable group access to secondary education during the pandemic across 4 platforms
5. About 8 Stakeholder engagement meetings were organized and deliberations revealed ways forward for virtual learning
6. Over 2000 parents were reached through the virtual platforms, to be able to assist their wards how at home
7. Partnerships formalized with mutual aims to advance the UN Global Compact principles