

# **Tour to GAMA has been quite Successful – Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah. Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources Ends GAMA Tour (Press Release)**

The Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah has disclosed that her tour to the Metropolitan and Municipal Assemblies within the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area (GAMA) has been very successful and rewarding. The Sector Minister said this when she spoke to the media after the last leg of her tour to Ga South, Ga Central and Weija Assemblies on Wednesday October 23, 2019. The tour which started on September 10, 2019 saw the Minister accompanied by a team of officials visiting almost all the Assemblies. Out of the twenty three Assemblies, the Sector Minister had paid visits to twenty two of the Assemblies which ended on Wednesday October 23, 2019 to Ga South, Ga Central and the Weija Assemblies.



Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah. Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources and officials on a GAMA tour

**Objectives.** The objectives of the tour to the Assemblies were to meet with the leadership of the Assemblies, have a quick scan of the selected communities and attend community durbars at the various places to interact with the people. The tour also afforded the Sector Minister the opportunity to have first-hand information about the sanitation situation and challenges at the various Assemblies and to find out how the Ministry can work collectively with the Assemblies to address the challenges. The Sanitation Minister also inspected the various GAMA projects; completed or ongoing at the various Assemblies.

The tour came at the background of the declaration of the President H.E Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo Addo to make Accra the cleanest city in Africa by the end of his term.

During the tour, it was quite revealing to see most of the communities clean, especially Kpone Katamanso and the Madina

areas. The Sector Minister was impressed and congratulated the leadership of the Assemblies for a good work done. She however, urged them not to rest on their oars but to endeavor to sustain it.

Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah's interaction with the market women especially was very fruitful. She admonished them to keep their foodstuff clean and tidy up their environment because poor sanitation at the market places has direct implication on the health of the people, which will also affect the nation's productivity.

This has been the first major tour of the sector Minister within the GAMA.

One critical issue which came up for the attention of the Minister was the need by the Assemblies to enforce the by-laws on Sanitation to make the President's vision attainable. One other issue of critical attention which came up during the tour was the poor standard of the slaughter house at Jamestown where the Minister called for major clean-up. She also called on the butchers to avoid the use of old lorry tyres to burn the animals because of the health risks the practice poses to the consuming public. Another important outcome of the tour by the Sector Minister was the honour conferred on the National Chief Imam as the Chief Patron for the sanitation campaign.

The Minister was accompanied on the tours by the Deputy Minister Hon. Patrick Boamah (MP), Hon. Michael Gyato (MP), the Chief Director of the Ministry Mr. Noah Tumfo, Directors and other officials from the Ministry and the Agencies.

### **Activities in Pictures**



Compiled by  
Nelson Akatey  
PR Unit

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# Chinese Government Supports Ghana with Boreholes

The Government's vision to extend safe and portable water supply to all parts of the country is yielding positive results.

The major boost to this programme was the commissioning of one such borehole at Suhum in the Eastern Region to mark the construction of 1,000 boreholes.

The Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah jointly commissioned the facility with the Chinese Ambassador to Ghana H. E. Shi Ting Wang. Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah commended the Chinese Government for the assistance.

The project is a 20 million Dollar project. The Chinese government is supporting Ghana for the provision of hand fitted boreholes to 500, 000 people in all the regions of Ghana.

She said the government is on course in providing portable and safe water to all the people of Ghana.

The programme forms part of the Economic and Technical cooperation Agreement signed between Ghana and China.

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# The Danish Ambassador to Ghana Confers with Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources on Danish Projects in Ghana

*Press Release / Ministry Of Sanitation and Water Resources*

The Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah has commended the Danish government for the continuous support the government of Denmark has provided for Ghana over the years especially in the areas of water supply and sanitation services. The sector minister made the commendation when the Danish Ambassador to Ghana H.E. Tove Dengbol paid a courtesy call on her at her office in Accra.

Her Excellency Tove Dengbol paid the courtesy call to hold discussions with the sector minister on the status of Danish projects being undertaken in Ghana through the initiative of the Danish Embassy in Ghana.

One of the highlights of the discussion with the Hon. Minister was on non-revenue challenges faced by the Ghana Water Company Limited which is affecting revenue mobilization of the company. H.E. Tove Dengbol appealed to the minister for the enforcement of the laws and regulations by the company and the efficient use of water and the need to protect the country's water resources.

According to the Danish Ambassador, the Danish government has invested almost 200 million dollars in the various water projects in the country. Her Excellency Tove Dengbol expressed the hope that the two countries Ghana and Denmark would continue to work together to enhance their relationship.

The Ambassador also indicated that Denmark is delighted to be part of Ghana's success story and exploring business opportunities in Ghana for the mutual benefits of both countries.

She added that an amount of 20 million US Dollars will be invested by the Danish government in future water projects in Ghana through the Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA) of the ministry.

The meeting also discussed that one of the Danish Companies Stranford which is investing in the water project in the country will offer technical assistance and training for the staff to be able to equip them.

In this regard, H.E. Tove Dangbol appealed to the minister to follow up on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed almost two years ago which has not been finalized. This will enable the Ghana Water Company to increase its production capacity to almost 40,000 cubic liters more of water.

**Lavender Hill:** Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah and her guest also touched on the sanitation challenge at the Lavender Hill. It came to light that the Accra Metropolitan Assembly had defaulted in the payment of the loan facilities provided to it for the management of the site. The Danish government according to H.E. Tove Dengbol is looking for a strategic investor to run the facility.

In her remarks, the Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources Hon. Cecilia Dapaah assured the Ambassador of the support of the government in the implementation of the various policy programmes. She commended the Ambassador for her personal initiatives which has seen most of the programmes through.

Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah noted that Denmark has been a worthy development partner to Ghana and hope the relationship will be strengthened. She said she would study all the outstanding

proposals and Memorandum of Understanding for their immediate action.

She assured the Ambassador her doors are always opened for discussion.

Earlier in the day, the Chief Executive Officer of Duraplast Manufacturing Company called on the Sector Minister. Hon Cecilia Abena Dapaah a week before toured the factory to acquaint herself with their operations.

*Compiled by  
Nelson Kofi Akatey  
(PRO)*

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## **Chinese Government Supports Ghana with Boreholes**

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# **Report On Public Opinion on the Ministry, Its Programmes and Activities**

**Introduction:** The analysis of public opinion especially in the media space plays an important role in shaping policy direction and programmes of any organization. Public opinion constitutes a summation of public perception about the activities and programmes of an organization. It enables the organization therefore to develop appropriate policy programmes, media releases and actions in dealing with the issues that may be identified.

## **The case of Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources**

Public Opinion generally about the establishment of the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources was good. Discussions on the media airwaves which were monitored commended the President Nana Addo Dankwa Akuffo Addo for the establishment of the Ministry in 2017. The same sentiments were shared in the public opinion poll (informal) in 2017. The

generality of the public believed the sanitation issues will be dealt with by the Ministry if adequate resources and logistics are provided for the Ministry.

**The Activities of the Ministry:** The public opinion on the activities and programmes of the Ministry at the end of 2018 was a mixed one. Media programmes and discussions indicated that a section of the population especially in Accra were of the opinion that the Ministry was on track to deliver on its mandate.

However, it was also realized through the media reportage and survey that people were not satisfied with the performance of the Ministry on account of large volumes of refuse not collected daily which are visible along the streets. Secondly, there were illegal dumpsites especially in Accra and some other major cities. The Ministry at the last quarter of 2018 was taken to the cleaners in the media airspace for 'apparently not performing'.

The Australian High Commissioner to Ghana for instance had to tweet on social media to complain about the heap of rubbish.

**Response/reaction:** The Ministry organized four (4) major media engagements at the Ministry to brief the media about the programmes and activities.

1. Interactive Media Talk Show Programmes: The Ministry also had series of interactive media talk show programmes. The media houses included the following:
2. Star Fm
3. GBC Radio
4. Metro TV
5. Peace Fm
6. **Visit to Landfill Sites:** The Ministry organized visits to Landfill sites following the media reportage to address the issues raised by the public.
7. Closure of illegal landfill sites at Mallam, Glefe and

Adedenkpo

8. Clean up exercises were also carried by the Ministry.

**Observation:** The observation made for the from the public opinion through phone in programmes and other related media activities was that people could not distinguish between the mandate and role of the Ministry and that of the Implementing Agencies such as the ESPA group and the Assemblies.