

Compact for Ghana's Political and Economic Transformation



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# Compact for Ghana Charts a Course for the Nation's Future

Accra, Ghana | December 6, 2022

Outlining goals for governance, political processes, economic management, and inclusion, the Compact for Ghana's Political and Economic Transformation, or Ghana Compact, will set a clear and collective vision for the country through 2050.

The initiative, launched today, aims to usher in a new era of prosperity for Ghana and empower citizens and government alike to move beyond politics and focus on sound policy and a shared vision for the country's future. As Ghana approaches its next election cycle in 2024, the Compact offers an opportunity to move from politically focused to issues-driven campaigns and gives citizens more power to hold their current and future leaders accountable to the vision they have set forth. The Compact will put in place citizen-driven systems to monitor and measure progress towards Ghana's goals over the long term, across future elections and political administrations for the next quarter-century.

"The Compact will be an agreement between citizens and government, regardless of who is in power, on the direction of travel for our country, and on the vision and values that underpin our democracy and pave the way toward a better, more secure future" said *Dr. K.Y. Amoako, Founder and President of the African Center for Economic Transformation* at today's launch. "It will also be a Compact between all of us as citizens on the values we want to uphold as a nation as we embark on this new agenda that aims to address our most pressing challenges head-on by bringing more voices to the table and putting policy before politics."

The Compact will focus on four critical areas that can unlock Ghana's progress towards economic transformation: 1. Political and constitutional reforms that help end extreme political division and polarization 2. Policies that will lead to improvements in Ghana's fiscal health to unlock greater and more responsible investment in Ghana's development 3. A long-term vision for economic transformation and

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a strong system that will ensure leaders adhere to collectively agreed goals 4. Long-term targets that will improve gender equality, access to affordable high-quality health services and education, the skills of young Ghanaians, small and medium enterprise growth, and job creation, while better preparing the country for the impacts of climate change.

Giving a youth perspective on the Compact at the launch, *Radia Issahaku*, *a member of the Northern Regional Youth network* said, "With the launch of the Ghana Compact, I see a Ghana with a development plan that prioritizes accountable, inclusive and transparent governance, a Ghana that provides quality education and leadership for the youth, a country that has values and principles with young people leading the change."

The Ghana Compact is the brainchild of Dr. Amoako and has been developed by the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) in partnership with major policy institutes and civil society organizations including Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana), Afrobarometer, the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS), the Institute for Democratic Governance (IDEG), the IMANI Center for Policy & Education, the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic research (ISSER), and NETRIGHT.

The ambition is for the Compact to be driven by citizens, embraced by leaders, and shaped by the aspirations of young people and the experience of elders.

Over the past year, consultations with a wide cross-section of the Ghanaian population have led to support from the Association of Ghana Industries, media, the Trade Union Council (TUC), key national institutions including the Council of State, the Peace Council, the Standing Committee of the National House of Chiefs, the Speaker and the majority and minority leadership of Parliament, the National Center for Civic Education (NCCE), and several religious leaders.

In the next 6 months, citizens should expect a broad national consultation and citizen engagement process across the country, where they will have the opportunity to review and respond to recommendations -prepared by Compact partners- that will set Ghana on a path towards economic and political transformation.

# To learn more about the Ghana Compact, visit:

The Compact for Ghana website

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# **Ghana Compact Partners**

## **Partner Policy Institutes**

Seven prominent policy institutes in Ghana have joined forces with the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET), in developing The Compact for Political and Economic Transformation. These think tanks have put together technical papers that focus on six critical goals and targets on the country's governance, political processes, economic management, and policies of inclusion.

#### **ACET**

Founded by Dr. K.Y Amoako, the African Center of Economic Transformation is the organization leading the charge for the Ghana Compact. ACET is a policy institute / think tank based in Accra with a Pan-African mandate and global reach; focused squarely on economic transformation in Africa within a generation, ACET's key areas are regional integration, economic management and governance, youth employment and skills, gender equality, private sector development, digital and innovation, climate, and agriculture. ACET produced the paper on Private Sector Development and collaborated with the National Development and Planning Commission to create the National planning paper.

### CDD-Ghana

The Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana) is an independent, not-for-profit research and advocacy think tank working to advance democracy, good governance, and inclusive economic growth. CDD-Ghana works to complement the broader objectives of strengthening democratic governance, the principles of popular participation and the demand for public accountability. In partnership with IDEG, CDD Ghana put together the paper on the Constitution.

#### **IFS**

As a politically independent non-profit think-tank committed to contributing to ghana's fiscal management and macroeconomic transformation and providing economic policy advice and advocacy Institute of Fiscal Studies were uniquely positioned to develop the paper on Fiscal Responsibility

#### IMANI

Responsible for the Health and Climate paper, the IMANI Center for Policy & Education has carved a niche in Ghana's policy environment for putting out objective, independent analysis and critique on many issues, using tried and tested techniques that apply across different disciplines.

#### **ISSER**

Currently serving as the research wing under the College of Humanities, University of Ghana, the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic research conducts policy relevant research to provide policy makers with solutions for national development. ISSER contributed to the Fiscal Responsibility paper.

#### **Afrobarometer**

Afrobarometer is a pan-African, non-partisan survey research network that provides reliable, timely data on the views of ordinary Africans to inform development and policy decision making. Afrobarometer collaborated with ACET to produce the paper on Youth, Employment and Skills.

#### **NETRIGHT**

Was started by a group of individuals and organizations as a response to identified gaps in the approach of CSOs working on women's rights issues. NETRIGHT is working to bring a gender perspective into national processes and policy interventions. In line with this objective, Netright was the lead contributor of the paper on Gender.

# **Ghana Compact Partners**

## **Civil Society Organizations**

The Ghana Compact will be driven by citizens and shaped by the aspirations of young people for the Ghana we want by 2050. In partnership with ACET, civil society organizations will lead community and district levels consultations to obtain citizens views on the goals and targets set forth in the technical papers. These community consultations will be organized around professional groupings or associations like women's groups, youth groups, farmers, the GPRTU, labor unions, and grassroot associations.

#### **ISODEC**

The Integrated Social Development Centre (ISODEC) is an indigenous non-governmental organization that works in solidarity with those striving for social justice. Over the years, ISODEC has developed a track record as a champion for transformative and inclusive development which addresses the needs of the poor and excluded in society.

#### **WACSI**

Established by the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) in 2005, the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) empowers civil society in West Africa to be responsive, collaborative, representative, resilient and influential through knowledge sharing, learning, connecting, and influencing.

## **Youth Bridge Foundation**

The Youth Bridge Foundation (YBF) is a non-profit organization committed to harnessing the potential of the youth in Africa and the Diaspora by equipping them with appropriate platforms and resources that will enhance their socio-economic and mental well-being; and to advocate for inclusion and responsiveness to youth development needs and rights by those responsible for upholding such rights.

# **Ghana Federation of Disability Organizations**

Previously known as the Ghana Federation of the Disabled, the Federation represents over 3 million persons with disabilities in Ghana. GFD champions engagements towards assuring the rights of persons with disabilities to access education, employment, health, economic welfare, recreation, the built environment, justice, information, and governance.

# **Right to Play**

Through the power of Play, Right to Play works in some of the most difficult and dangerous places on earth to help children to stay in school and graduate, resist exploitation and overcome prejudice, keep themselves safe from disease, and heal from the harsh realities of war and abuse.

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