

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CIVIC EDUCATION



ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FOR 2012

MAY, 2013

TABLE OF CONTENT

CONTENT	
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS/ ACRONYMS	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
CHAPTER ONE	6
1.1 INTRODUCTION	6
1.1.1. <i>VISION</i>	6
1.1.2 <i>MANDATE</i>	6
1.1.3 <i>VALUES</i>	6
1.1.4 <i>OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMISSION</i>	6
1.2 <i>STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SMTDP</i>	7
1.3 <i>PURPOSE OF THE M&E FOR THE PERIOD</i>	7
1.3.1 <i>PROCESS INVOLVED</i>	7
1.3.2 <i>DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED</i>	8
CHAPTER TWO: MONITORING AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES REPORT	9
2.1 PROGRAMME/ PROJECT STATUS FOR 2012	9
2.2 UPDATE ON FUNDING SOURCES	12
2.3 UPDATE ON DISBURSEMENT	12
2.4 UPDATE ON INDICATORS	12
2.5 UPDATE ON CRITICAL DEVELOPMENTS	14
2.5.1 <i>PUBLIC EDUCATION</i>	14
2.5.2 <i>CAPACITY BUILDING</i>	14
CHAPTER THREE: WAY FORWARD	15
3.1 KEY ISSUES ADDRESSED AND THOSE INTENDED TO BE ADDRESSED	15
3.1.1 <i>KEY ISSUES ADDRESSED</i>	15
3.1.2 <i>KEY ISSUES INTENDED TO BE ADDRESSED</i>	15
3.2 <i>RECOMMENDATIONS</i>	16
3.3 <i>CONCLUSION</i>	16

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS /ACRONYMS

ARIC	Audit Report Implementation Committee
CHRAJ	Commission for Human Right and Administrative Justice
CRC	Constitution Review Commission
DLE	District Level Election
GACC	Ghana Anti-corruption Coalition
GIDD	Governance and Institutional Development
GII	Ghana integrity Initiative
GSS	Ghana Statistical service
GTUC	Ghana Trade union Congress
IDEG	Institute for Democratic Governance
IPEC-ILO	International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
ISD	Information Service department
MDA	Ministry department and Agency
NAPRM-GC	National African Peer Review mechanism
NGO	Non- governmental Organization
PHC	Population House Census
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNDP	United Nation Development programme
NCCE	National Commission for Civic Education

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Commission's Public Education activities for the year 2012 were based on two key focus areas, Constitution Awareness Creation and Deepening and Sustaining Civic Awareness.

Four key thematic areas namely, Public Education and Sensitization on the Principles and the Objectives of the 1992 Constitution, Voter Education of the Citizenry on Violent Free Elections, Youth and Public Policy in Ghana's Democracy through Project Citizen and Youth Sensitization on Civic Virtues were drawn out of the twelve policy objectives formulated to guide the Public Education activities for that year.

Awareness of Constitutional provisions among the youth was sustained in the year under review through the organization of the Constitution Game Competitions among Senior High Schools nationwide. Closely related to this was a special Project Citizen Showcase by three (3) selected Senior High Schools on using public policy to solve selected nagging community problems and the encouragement of the youth to "*Own their future*" by abstaining from drugs, substance abuse and trafficking at workshops and youth leadership camps.

It is worthy of note that the NCCE successfully and effectively collaborated with the Narcotics Control Board to educate the youth and also create awareness at the workshops on the dangers of drug use and substance abuse.

The year 2012 was undoubtedly significant in the political history of Ghana as the nation went to the polls for the sixth time under the 1992 Constitution breaking grounds with the use of the Biometric Voters Register. The NCCE undertook intensive and extensive education on the Biometric Voters Registration and observation of the elections in all existing constituencies.

The need for peaceful elections was crucial to the stability of the nation especially in 2012. As such, the NCCE intensified its education of the citizenry on violent Free Elections as well as formed Inter-Party Dialogue Committees comprising representatives of Political Parties and Civil Society to facilitate its efforts.

Another important activity was organization of workshops for Political Party Youth Activists on the need to refrain from violent acts before, during and beyond the elections. Added to this were Focus Group Discussions and Community Durbars on Non-Violence and full participation in the elections as well as post-election public education at the national and regional levels on sustainable peace.

The Commission did not overlook the important role of the Media in promoting and ensuring peaceful elections. Thus it organized five (5) Zonal Workshops for Media practitioners including Chief Executive Officers and Media owners on responsible reportage on election related activities for peaceful elections.

It is heart-warming to note that the Two Hundred and Thirty-five (235) participants pledged in a communique to be responsible in reporting on elections 2012 and beyond.

The twelfth Annual Constitution Week Celebration heralded the maiden National Democracy Lecture on “***Building a Peaceful, Democratic, Non-Partisan and Prosperous African State: Understanding Where African Leaders Have Gotten It wrong***”.

The celebration also introduced the Citizenship Day interactions with pupils in five hundred and seventy (570) basic schools at the National, Regional and District levels on responsible citizenship.

The NCCE boldly upheld the celebrated adage “***A Sound Mind in a Sound Body***” by organizing public education activities on prevention and control of Malaria, one of the nation’s killer diseases in one hundred and sixty (160) districts in partnership with the Ghana Health Service. The workshops among others promoted the use of treated bed nets and other prevention measures.

In the area of Research, the Commission carried out a very important survey on “***Issues of Concern to the Ghanaian Voter***”, to guide the electorate to vote responsibly on issues and also to inform the Political Parties on the areas of concern to the Ghanaian Voter.

The Commission also pursued a number of collaborative activities with its partners including the African Peer Mechanism Governing-Council, Centre for Democratic Development, International Labour Organization.

CHAPTER ONE

1.1 Introduction

The strategic direction and priorities of government in the medium-term as stated in the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA) is to lay the foundation for the structural transformation of the Economy, through industrialization especially manufacturing, based on modernized agriculture and sustainable exploitation of Ghana's natural resources, particularly minerals, oil and gas. The process will be underpinned by rapid infrastructure and human development as well as the application of science and technology including information technology and innovation. The purpose of this Annual Progress Report (APR) is to highlight how the NCCE has been able to use its sector Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (M&E) plan to track progress of all its programmes and activities identified in its Sector Medium-Term Plan within the plan period.

1.1.1 Our Vision

The NCCE's vision is to be an effective independent governance institution delivering of civic education to all Ghanaians and working towards sustaining Ghana's democracy.

1.1.2 Our Mandate

The NCCE is mandated to create awareness and educate Ghanaians on the significance of the constitution, strengthen constitutional democracy and the awareness of civic rights and responsibilities in the country.

1.1.3 Our Values

We apply integrity in all our dealings. We are present in every district and community throughout Ghana. The laws of Ghana clothe us with independence in the performance of our work.

1.1.4 Objectives of the Commission

The objectives include:

- To develop awareness in the Ghanaian citizenry to appreciate the philosophical underpinnings of the 1992 Constitution and to make them informed, responsible and effective participants in nation-building and;
- To develop continuously and systematically, the Commission's human resource potential.

1.2 Status of Implementation of SMTDP

The NCCE's Medium Term Development Plan is a four year Development Plan which covers all programmes, projects and activities of Commission at the national, regional and district levels.

The operationalization of the NCCE's Medium Term Development Plan borders on strengthening and deepening democracy in Ghana. In line with its goal, the NCCE during the period under review organized a number of activities aimed at meeting the development objectives of the plan. The Commission also through its flagship programmes has undertaken several awareness and sensitization programmes which have improved the exercise of civic rights and responsibilities by the citizenry.

1.3 Purpose of the M&E for the period

The NCCE's M&E Plan for the period under review focused on assessing the achievement levels of programmes run during the period, identify constraints and failures in the programmes undertaken, identify appropriate interventions that will increase the effectiveness of the programmes of the Commission, as well as provide information for effective coordination at the national, regional and district levels.

1.3.1 Process Involved

In preparing the Annual Progress Report, the key processes adopted included collection of data from secondary sources, such as the Progress Reports from the District and Regional offices. After collection of data from the various sources, the data was collated, cleaned up and analysed.

Based on the output of the analysis, the report was prepared to reveal the programmes that were undertaken by the Commission towards the realization of the Commission's goals as well as the status of implementation of the NCCE's Medium Term Development Plan under the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA, 2010 - 2013).

1.3.2 Difficulties Encountered

In the preparation of the Commission's Annual Progress Report, 2012, there were a number of challenges encountered, some of which were:

- ❖ Weak institutional co-ordination between the PME Department and some Departments especially with regard to timely submission of required data for to the former towards preparation of the APR.
- ❖ Inadequate institutional capacity in the area of logistics and human resource for the Data Collection, Collation, Cleaning and Analysis towards the preparation of the APR. A typical situation can be given on the inability of the Commission, acting through the Programme

Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate, to embark on monitoring exercise to confirm the status of implementation of the MTDP as per the report submitted to it by the Regional and District Offices.

- ❖ Ineffective M&E feedback mechanisms at the Commission.
- ❖ Exceptionally low or sometimes no budgetary allocation for M&E activities.

CHAPTER TWO

MONITORING AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES REPORT

2.1 Programme/ Project Status for 2012

This section details programmes/projects undertaken by the Commission for the year 2012.

GSGDA Thematic Area: Transparent and Accountable Governance

Programme Name: Constitutional Awareness Creation

Programme Description	Activity	Expected Output	Actual results	Objective	Budget	Source of funding	Start Date	Expected completion date	Programme Implementation Status	Remarks
Public Education and sensitization on principles and objectives of the constitution	Organized National constitution game competition among SHS regional finalists	One grand finale at National level among 11 SHS	150 students educated on the Constitution through game	To increase knowledge of the constitution among the youth through game		GOG	October, 2012	October, 2012	Programme completed	Annual activity Exciting for the students and staff

Programme Name: Deepening and Sustaining Civic Awareness

Programme Description	Activity	Expected Output	Actual results	Objective	Budget	Source of funding	Start Date	Expected completion date	Programme Implementation Status	Remarks
Seeks to educate the public to defend the Constitution against all forms of abuse and violation	Inter-Party dialogue committees formed in all regions and districts	180 regional and District committees formed	Regular committee meetings addressed issues concerning possible electoral violence	To initiate dialogue among stake holders in the resolution of conflicts that could negatively affect the elections and beyond.		GOG	February 2012	Roll over	On-going	Inadequate funding to service meetings
	Sensitize public on Biometric Voter Registration Exercise (BVR)	Intensive education at all 230 then existing constituencies and observation at all registration centers	High turn-out to register	To enlighten citizens about operations of BVR, to replace the existing register		EU/UNDP	December, 2011	May, 2012	Programme Completed	Rumors/ speculations about negative effects from the BVR machines on persons who come into contact with the device.

		Eligible persons prepared to register and to vote								
	Constitution week celebration Organized national democracy lecture	One national lecture	One national lecture on building a peaceful democratic and prosperous African State approx. 2,000 participants	To create a platform for a dispassionate discussion on why many African states are unable to attain sustainable peace and democratic governance and the way forward		GOG		May, 2012	Programme Completed	Annual activity Difficulty in getting the President to attend.
	Interactions with pupils on citizenship day	220 basic schools Nationwide 22,000 pupils	570 basic schools were involved, reached out to 114,000 pupils at national, regional and district levels	To inculcate the virtues Of good citizenship in School children so they grow with it.		GOG	May,2012	May, 2012	Programme Completed	Annual activity. Identification and selection of prominent citizens to interact with the children needed extra efforts Programme was exciting
	Organized 5(five) zonal workshops for practitioners including CEOs and media owners	3 Northern, Middle and Southern zones covered with 145 participants. Responsible reportage for peaceful elections and beyond	Five zonal workshops The 235 participants pledged in a communiqué to be responsible in reportage	To sensitize media practitioners on the need to uphold high standards in reporting especially election related activities to ensure peaceful free and fair elections		GOG	February, 2012	October,2012	Programme Completed	Initial target was Journalists but managers/ CEOs were brought in upon request by the Journalists / Staff
	Organized workshops for political party youth activists	20 selected districts 1,000 participants	40 districts covered. 2,000 participants.	To increase participants understanding of election processes so as to appreciate peaceful elections and beyond		EU	December, 2012	November,2012	Programme Completed	Limited by financial constraints but supplemented the EU support with GOG funds
	Organized community Focus Group Discussions and community durbars	40 selected districts	80 districts covered	To promote peace and full participation in the elections through brainstorming and drama		EU	Nov ember 2012	November,2012	Programme Completed	EU Support not able to cover all 170 then existing districts.
	Organized public education on malaria prevention and control (in partnership with Ghana Health Service	All 170 existing districts	160 districts covered	To promote the use of treated bed-nets and other preventive measures.		Malaria Control Board	February, 2012	November,2012	Programme Completed	Inadequate Mobile Cinema Vans to cover assignments on time.

	Organized post-election public education at national and regional levels	National and Regional levels	Public education and engagements with Muslim communities at national and six regions.-50,000 participants	To educate and enlighten the public on constitutional provisions regarding resolution of electoral dispute.		GOG	December 2012	December 2012	Programme completed	Programme effective and should have been replicated in remaining target areas
	Raising of awareness on the negative impact of child labour	40 selected cocoa growing communities in 4 selected districts	Workshops and Community durbars in the selected communities	To raise awareness on the negative impacts of Child labour especially on the education of children involved in cocoa growing in the selected communities	GHC 55,960.00	ILO	May 2012	Roll over	On Hold	Pending approval for another tranche from the donor
	Organized special Sponsorship Project Citizen Showcase	50 potential Sponsors, three SHS 36 students	One special Project Citizen sponsorship Showcase organized at the National level	To seek sponsorship from interested companies to augment the existing number to expand and publicize the project		HFS	October, 2012	October, 2012	Completed	Low turn out three companies declared intention for sponsorship

2.2 Update on Funding Sources

The NCCE was allocated a total GoG budget of GH¢7,541,698.00 for its programmes and activities in 2011. In the year under review a budget of GH¢8,504,931.00 was approved for the Commission. At the end of the year, however, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning's actual release came up to GH¢31,898,269.03 which gave us an increase of GH¢23,393,338.03. The approved budget for the year and amount released by GoG and Donor /other releases for the same period are captured in the table below:

Source	Approved Budget GH¢	Actual Receipt GH¢
GOG	8,504,931.00	31,898,269.03
Donor/Others	2,625,677.25	2,625,677.25
TOTAL	11,130,608.25	34,523,946.28

2.3 Update on Disbursement

This section gives a breakdown of the distribution of the resources received by the Commission in the year under review.

Items	Approved Budget GH¢	Actual Receipt GH¢	Variance GH¢
Personnel Emoluments	5,027,533.00	23,777,578.16	18,750,045.16
Goods & Services	3,160,598.00	4,594,056.93	1,433,458.93
Assets	316,800.00	3,526,633.94	3,209,833.94
Donor/others			
German Embassy	213,313.10	213,313.10	
Hanns Seidel	75,693.96	75,693.96	
European Union	1,999,475.79	1,999,475.79	
ILO	248,665.00	248,665.00	
GCB & others	88,529.40	88,529.40	
TOTAL	11,130,608.25	34,523,946.28	

2.4 Update on Indicators

This section of the report indicates the update on the indicators for measuring the Commission's progress towards achieving its set targets and goals as indicated in its Medium Term Development Plan for 2010-2013. The Table below outlines the update on the indicators and targets.

PROGRAMME	ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS	TARGETS
1.CONSTITUTIONAL AWARENESS CREATION	Organize National Constitution Game Competition among SHS	1.To enhance Civil Society and private participation in Governance	Number of Senior High Schools involved Constitution game competitions	171
	Hold Meetings with Identifiable Bodies	2. To promote coordination, harmonization and ownership of the development process	Number of meetings held number of identify bodies engaged	21,200 meetings nationwide
	Disseminate Information on Radio, and Information Centres	3.To strengthen Arms of Government and Independent Government Institutions	Number of Radio discussions held number of Information Centres	181 radio discussions
		4. To foster civic Advocacy to nurture the culture of rights and responsibilities		
		5. To strengthen functional relationship between Assembly Members and Citizens		
		6. To deepen on-going Institutionalization and internalization of policy formulation, planning and M&E systems at all levels		
2.DEEPENING AND SUSTAINING CIVIC AWARENESS	Form Inter-Party Dialogue Committees (IPDCS) throughout the country	1.To Enhance civil Society and private participation in Governance	Number of Inter-Party Dialogue Committees (IPDCS) formed	180 Committees formed
	Organize Constitution Week Celebration	2. To promote coordination, harmonization and ownership of the development process	Number of activities organized	Two major activities undertaken
	Workshops / Youth Camps	3. Foster civic advocacy to nurture the culture of rights and responsibilities	Number of Workshop/Youth Camps organized	Ten regional workshops/ three zonal youth camps.
	Focus group discussions, Community Durbars and Drama, Community Meetings and Public Forums on violent free elections Nationwide.	Foster civic advocacy to nurture the culture of rights and responsibilities	Number of Communities sensitized	42,500 communities sensitized
	Radio discussions and Cinema.	4.Strengthen functional relationship between Assembly Members and Citizens	Number of Radio discussions and Cinema.	181 radio discussions. 40 district cinema shows.
	Civic Education Clubs in SHS / Project Citizen	5. Strengthen Arms of Government and Independent Government Institutions	Number of Civic Education Clubs /SHS implementing Project Citizen	195 schools nationwide.

		6.To Deepen on-going institutionalization and internalization of policy formulation, planning and M&E system at all levels	Number of levels involved	One Department (PME) involved
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2.5 Update on Critical Developments

The Commission has over the years been involved in civic education of the citizenry on a variety of issues pertaining to national development. The update on the efforts of the Commission for the year under review has been stated below under various themes.

2.5.1 Public Education

The Commission undertook various public education campaigns with various partners under the year of review. Prominent among the educational activities were the Constitution Week Celebration prominent among which being institution of Annual Democracy Lecture and Citizenship Day. Other activities included voter education on Election 2012 and formation of Inter-Party Dialogue Committees to facilitate the process, Focus Group Discussions, Community Durbars and Workshops for Political Party Activists on Violent Free Election as well as sensitization of the Youth on the dangers of drug abuse and substance use.

2.5.2 Capacity Building

The NCCE as part of its effort to successfully implement the *Five-Year Enhanced Strategic Plan* organized a capacity building workshop for 110 Accounts staff towards Election 2012 at the Public Services Union Centre, Kumasi.

It also under the year of review granted 10 members of staff study leave with pay to pursue various courses in recognised higher institutions.

CHAPTER THREE

THE WAY FORWARD

3.1 KEY ISSUES ADDRESSED AND THOSE TO BE ADDRESSED

3.1.1 KEY ISSUES ADDRESSED

The Commission carried out a lot of activities aimed at giving further expression to its Constitutional mandate which includes creating and sustaining among the people of Ghana awareness on the principles and objectives of the 1992 Constitution.

Under the theme “*STAND UP FOR GHANA*”, the Commission earmarked and successfully executed the listed programmes and activities across the country during the year under review.

Key issues that were addressed included:

- Increased and effective participation in the electoral process
- Creating peaceful and congenial atmosphere before, during and beyond the 2012 general elections
- Promoting free, fair and transparent elections
- Enhancing sustainable peace and democratic governance
- Inculcating the virtues of good citizenship in pupils
- Promoting high standards in reporting amongst Media Personnel
- Encouraging the youth to stay away from drugs
- Increased knowledge of the Constitution among the youth

3.1.2 KEY ISSUES INTENDED TO BE ADDRESSED

The Commission, mindful of the importance of gender in the development of our nation, set up the Gender and Equality Desk to give prominence to gender related issues especially addressing gender and equality imbalance. The NCCE intends to celebrate the International Women’s Month nationwide to emphasize on the rights of women and other marginalized groups.

It also plans to mark International Day for the Protection of the Rights of Children and partner the ILO and appropriate Civil Society Organizations to undertake Child Rights education and to give voice to children. The programme will focus on childhood mortality, child labour, Female Genital Mutilation and other cultural practices which are inimical to the development of children.

To deepen and sustain Constitutional awareness, the NCCE will embark on intensive engagements with identifiable organizations on Directive Principles of State Policy to educate them on the obligations of the State to its citizen especially towards marginalized groups.

The Commission will expand the participation of basic schools in the celebration of Citizenship Day as well as the implementation of Project Citizen which currently stands at one hundred and ninety-five senior high schools to cover all schools at that level. This will encourage them to appreciate the fact that *everyone counts* in Ghana's democracy.

The NCCE will additionally intensify the dissemination of information on the roles of the three (3) arms of Government, the Executive, Judiciary and Legislature to deepen public knowledge of the workings of these state institutions.

The Commission plans to liaise with Security Agencies to sensitize the public on maintaining peace and stability in the country.

To strengthen the functional relationship between Assembly Members and Citizen and to deepen the knowledge on Citizen on Decentralization and Local Government in general, the Commission intends holding a series of media programmes and other public education activities to clarify the roles of District Chief Executives, District, Municipal and Metropolitan Assemblies and Members.

3.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

To enhance the performance of the Commission in terms of outputs and outcomes, the following recommendations are being made:

- Increased and timely release of budgetary allocations for effective and efficient planning and organization of programmes.
- Provision of vehicles and other means of transport for all the District Offices to enhance accessibility to every part of the country especially to the historically marginalized.
- Provision of Audio Visual Equipment to enhance education especially in communities without electricity.

3.3 CONCLUSION

The NCCE in the year 2012 made giant strides in implementation of its programmes to include breaking of new grounds for more effectiveness. The institution of the Democracy Lecture and Citizenship Day widened and intensified citizens' participation in Ghana's democracy including the youth.

The Commission's deep involvement in important activities pertaining to the electoral process and its activities encouraging political tolerance at all levels extensively contributed to the peaceful elections in the year under review. Other related activities and youth programmes further gave more meaning to the importance of civic education in democracy.

Successful implementation of programmes and activities outlined solely or in collaboration with its partners, went a long way to strengthen and deepen Ghana's democracy in line with the Commission's Medium Term Development Plan which borders on strengthening and deepening democracy in Ghana.