MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

REPUBLIC OF GHANA

Agricultural Sector Medium Term Plan:

A Plan to Transform Ghana's Agri-Food Systems

(2026-2029)

Under the theme:
"Resetting-Ghana Agenda"
Creating Jobs, Ensuring Accountability and Promoting Shared Prosperity

September 2025

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FOREWORD

The strategic framework that is guiding the Government's development agenda is the National Medium-Term Development Policy Framework (NMTDPF, 2026 - 2029). The purpose of the NMTDP is to operationalise the vision, policies and programmes outlined in the President's Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies (CPESDP, 2026 – 2029).

The agricultural sector, a key to the national development agenda, is expected to lead the reset agenda of the Government and the expected growth and structural transformation of the economy and maximise the benefits of accelerated growth. This plan has been developed in line with global (Sustainable Development Goals), continental (Comprehensive Africa's Agricultural Development programme - Kampala Declaration) and regional (ECOWAS Agricultural Policy) development frameworks. The food and agriculture sector has direct and indirect impact on the attainment of at least ten (10) of the SDGs. The CAADP enjoins Government expenditure allocation of at least 10% of the annual national budget to the agricultural sector, and a resultant agricultural sector GDP growth of at least 6% per annum within the plan period. Together with the ECOWAP, it provides an integrated framework to support agricultural growth, rural development, and food and nutrition security in Africa.

This Agricultural Sector Medium Term Development Plan (SMTDP, 2026 – 2029) and its flagship, the Feed Ghana Programme (FGP, 2025 – 2028) are designed to address the challenges identified in the agricultural sector in the medium term. The plan aims at achieving the Government's objective of modernising the agri-food systems to transform the economy of Ghana. Strategically, it provides a framework to galvanise the modernisation of the sector through the Government's flagship programmes and campaigns including FGP and its derivative interventions. The SMTDP provides a menu of Investment Areas and Broad Activities that will enable the Government to: (i) harmonise all Government interventions and flagship programmes in the sector; (ii) align donor interventions to agreed priorities; (iii) strategically manage investments for results; (iv) effectively leverage private sector investments; and (v) account for results.

This SMTDP adopts the value chain approach to strengthen collaboration, coordination, and commitment among all sector stakeholders. It aims to overcome the challenges facing the food and agriculture sector to enhance growth, create employment, increase incomes, reduce poverty, and achieve food and nutrition security for the people of Ghana, all within the context of an environmentally sustainable and transformed rural economy.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This Agricultural Sector Medium-term Development Plan (SMTDP) otherwise known as the National Agricultural Sector Investment Plan (NAIP, 2026 - 2029): *A Plan to Transform Ghana's Agri-food system"*, was prepared through a concerted effort and involvement of a wide range of agricultural sector stakeholders who have contributed immensely.

The Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) acknowledges the contributions and support of all the stakeholders in the agricultural sector, including Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Private Sector, Farmer-Based Organizations (FBOs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Development Partners (DPs), Research and Academia, Traditional Authorities, among others for their participation in this exercise. MoFA also acknowledges its partners, both local and international, that provided technical and financial support.

This work was made possible by the technical and financial support of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (UN). Finally, sincere appreciations are extended to the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) for their technical support in the development of this Plan.

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

1D1F	One District One Factory
1D1W	One District One Warehouse
1V1D	One Village One Dam
ABFA	Annual Budget Funding Amount
ACSE	Agricultural Cluster Service Enterprises
AEA	Agricultural Extension Agent
AESD	Agricultural Engineering Services Directorate
AFJ	Aquaculture for Food and Jobs
AgGDP	Agricultural sector Gross Domestic Product
AgPEs	Agro-Production Enclaves
AgSWG	Agricultural Sector Working Group
AI	Artificial Insemination
AIA	Agricultural Industry Associations
AMSECs	Agricultural Mechanisation Services Enterprise Centres
APD	Animal Production Directorate
APR	Annual Progress Report
ATVET	Agricultural Technical Vocational Education and Training
BA	Broad Activity
CAADP	Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme
CARES	COVID-19 Alleviation and Revitalisation of Enterprises Support
CBT	Competency-Based Training
CEB	Crop Enterprise Budget
CPESDP	Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
CSSVD	Cocoa Swollen Shoot Virus Disease
DADs	District Agriculture Departments
DAES	Directorate of Agricultural Extension Services
DCACT	District Chambers of Agriculture, Commerce and Technology
DCS	Directorate of Crops Services
DD	Development Dimensions
DPs	Development Partners
ESIAs	Environmental and Social Impact Assessments
F&A	Finance and Administration
FASDEP	Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy
FBO	Farmer-Based Organisation
FDA	Food and Drugs Authority
FD	Finance Directorate
FGP	Feed Ghana Programme
FNS	Food and Nutrition Security
GADF	Ghana Agricultural Development Fund
GADS	Gender and Agricultural Development Strategy
GAE	Ghana Enterprises Agency
GAEP	Ghana Agricultural Engineering Policy
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
GASIP	Ghana Agricultural Sector Investment Programme
GCX	Ghana Commodity Exchange
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEA	Ghana Enterprises Agency

GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIDA	Ghana Irrigation Development Authority
GIRSAL	Ghana Incentive-Based Risk-Sharing System for Agricultural Lending
GLSS	Ghana Living Standard Survey
GMet	Ghana Meteorological Agency
GOG	Government of Ghana
GPMP	Good Poultry Management Practices
GRATIS	Ghana Regional Appropriate Technology Industrial Service
GSA	Ghana Standards Authority
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
HQCF	High-Quality Cassava Flour
HRDMD	Human Resource Development and Management Directorate
IA	Investment Area
IFJ	Investing for Food and Jobs
IGF	Internally Generated Fund
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IRS	Interest Rate Subsidy
ISKNV	Infectious Spleen and Kidney Necrosis Virus
IWC	Irrigation for Wealth Creation
MAG	Modernizing Agriculture in Ghana
MAP	Modified Atmosphere Packaging
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDA	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MESTI	Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation
METASIP	Medium-Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan
MLGDRD	Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development
MLNR	Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources
MMDAs	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
MoFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoTAI	Ministry of Trade, Agribusiness and Industry
MRACLS	Multi-Round Annual Crop and Livestock Survey
MTEF	Medium-Term Expenditure Framework
MTNDPF	Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework
NADMO	National Disaster Management Organisation
NAFCO	National Food Buffer Stock Company
NDPC	National Development Planning Commission
NEIP	National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NMTDPF	National Medium-Term Development Policy Framework
OFSP	Orange Fleshed Sweet Potato
PBB	Programme Based Budget
PEF	Private Enterprise Federation
PEP	Productivity Enhancement Programme
PERD	Planting for Export and Rural Development
PFJ	Planting for Food and Jobs
PHL	Post-Harvest Losses
PLWDs	Persons living with Disabilities
PM&E	Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation
PMF	Performance Measurement Framework
PoA	Programme of Action

PPMED	Policy Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PPPP	Public-Private Producer Partnership
PPRSD	Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate
PWD	Persons with Disabilities
RADs	Regional Agricultural Departments
RCCs	Regional Coordinating Councils
RELCs	Research-Extension-Farmer Linkage Committees
RFJ	Rearing for Food and Jobs
SAPIP	Savannah Zone Agricultural Productivity Improvement Project
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SFASMRDF	Sustainable Food & Agriculture Systems Management Research & Development Fund
SHCs	Self-Help Cooperatives
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SMRE	Small and Medium Rural Enterprises
SMTDP	Sector Medium-Term Development Plan
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SP	Sub-Programme
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary
SRID	Statistics, Research and Information Directorate
STI	Science, Technology and Innovation
UPA	Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture
VSD	Veterinary Services Directorate
WHO	World Health Organisation
WIAD	Women in Agriculture Development
WTO	World Trade Organization
WRS	Warehouse Receipt System
WUAs	Water User Associations
YAP	Youth Agriculture-Estate Programme
YEA	Youth Employment Agency

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Agricultural Sector Investment Plan (NAIP) 2026–2029), also known as the Agricultural Sector Medium-Term Development Plan (SMTDP) was developed by a technical team with representation from all directorates of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and in collaboration with sector stakeholders including farmer groups, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Development Partners, Private Sector, Research and Academia. It provides a coherent framework for modernising Ghana's agri-food system over the medium term. It is also anchored within the National Medium-Term Development Policy Framework (NMTDPF, 2026–2029) and is aligned with global, continental, and regional commitments including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), and the ECOWAS Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP).

The plan preparation involved review of the previous SMTDP (2022 - 2025) by the Technical Committee, stock taking analysis of emerging issues in the agricultural ecosystem, engagement with sector stakeholders on diverse platforms and drafting and technical review sessions.

The Plan seeks to transform the agricultural sector into a resilient, competitive, and sustainable driver of inclusive growth, while ensuring food and nutrition security, creating decent employment, and enhancing Ghana's role in regional and global markets. The flagship Feed Ghana Programme (FGP, 2025–2028), serves as the main vehicle for investment and coordination of the implementation of this SMTDP in this medium term.

Between 2022 and 2025, Ghana's agricultural sector demonstrated resilience but was marked by significant volatility. Although the sector contributed approximately 21% to GDP and employed nearly 38% of the labour force, growth slowed from 8.4% in 2021 to 2.8% in 2024. Productivity remained low due to limited adoption of improved technologies, weak extension services, and inadequate irrigated agriculture among others. Erratic rainfall and prolonged dry spells led to yield losses of up to 20%, while post-harvest losses ranged between 14% and 62% across key crops and vegetables. The livestock and poultry subsector remained heavily import-dependent, with over US$300 million spent annually on poultry and feed imports. Limited veterinary services, poor biosecurity, and inadequate breeding stock compounded these challenges. Access to credit was minimal, accounting for less than 5% of total national lending in 2024, while persistent youth disengagement, an ageing farming population, and widespread malnutrition underscored the structural weaknesses of the sector.

To address these constraints, the SMTDP/NAIP sets out the flagship Feed Ghana Programme (FGP). The sub-programmes includes Crops and Livestock Development which focuses on productivity growth through the use of improved technologies including fertiliser, seeds, breeds, irrigation, and climate-smart practices; enhanced post-harvest management; and nutrition-sensitive agriculture. It also focuses on Agribusiness Development which prioritises private sector-led investment, the expansion of agricultural finance and insurance, and the strengthening of value chains and markets, particularly through platforms such as the Ghana Commodity Exchange. Sustainable Management of Land and Environment also a priority and it emphasises conservation agriculture, afforestation, renewable energy integration, and climate resilience. Cross-cutting strategies address the empowerment of women and youth, the adoption of digital agriculture, and the scaling up of research, innovation and dissemination.

The estimated cost of implementing the Plan is GHS 302.21 Billion over the period. Financing will come from government allocations, the Annual Budget Funding Amount (ABFA), internally generated funds, development partner contributions, and private sector investment. A central focus will be to create conditions that crowd in private capital, while ensuring donor interventions are aligned with national priorities. This will be achieved through Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), innovative financing instruments, and agricultural risk-sharing mechanisms including GIRSAL and agricultural insurance.

Implementation will be guided by a results-based monitoring and evaluation framework aligned with MoFA and NDPC systems. Clear targets include achieving agricultural GDP growth of at least 6% annually, attaining self-sufficiency in staple crops by 2029, increasing fertiliser application to 50kg per hectare, improving the farmer-to-extension officer ratio to 1:500, and reducing child stunting from 17.5% in 2024 to 14% by 2029. Transparency will be strengthened through participatory monitoring, decentralised data systems, and the use of digital platforms such as the MoFA Web Portal and the Ghana Agriculture and Agribusiness Platform (GhAAP).

By 2029, successful implementation of the NAIP is expected to modernise and commercialise the agricultural sector while guaranteeing food and nutrition security, sustainable employment for women and youth, resilience to climate and economic shocks, and meaningful poverty reduction and rural development. The transformation of agriculture into a technology-driven and environmentally sustainable sector will ensure that Ghana’s agri-food system is positioned as a competitive engine of national growth and regional integration.

CHAPTER ONE

General Introduction

1.1 Introduction

Chapter 1 presents the vision, mission, functions/mandates and values of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

1.2 Vision, Mission, Mandates and Values of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture

Vision: The vision for Ghana's agricultural sector is "a modernised agriculture culminating in a structurally transformed economy and evident in food security, employment opportunities and reduced poverty".

Mission: To promote sustainable agriculture and thriving agribusiness through research and technology development, effective extension and other support services to producers, processors, distributors and consumers for improved food security, nutrition and incomes.

Mandates:

a. **Agricultural policy formulation:** This is a foundational function where MoFA acts as the primary architect of Ghana's agricultural direction. The Ministry is responsible for developing, reviewing, and updating national policies and strategies for the Food and Agriculture sector. This involves conducting situational analyses, forecasting trends, and setting strategic goals such as ensuring food security, promoting agro-industrialization, and increasing incomes for farmers that align with broader national development frameworks like the Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies. Through stakeholder consultations with farmers, researchers, donors, and other government agencies, MoFA formulates policies (e.g., the Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy - FASDEP) that create an enabling environment for sustainable agricultural growth.

b. **Sector planning:** Following policy formulation, MoFA engages in sector planning to translate broad policy objectives into concrete, actionable plans. This function involves defining specific targets, allocating resources, and sequencing activities over medium-term periods. The Ministry develops comprehensive Sector Medium-Term Development Plans (SMTDPs) which breaks down strategic goals into programmes and sub-programs. This planning process ensures that the activities of MoFA's various directorates and agencies, as well as those of development partners, are coordinated and directed towards common, measurable outcomes, thereby avoiding duplication and maximizing the impact of investments in the sector.

c. **Development and management of sector programmes and projects**: This is the implementation arm of MoFA's work. Based on the approved sector plans, the Ministry designs, develops, and manages specific programmes and projects. A flagship example is the "Feed Ghana Programme" (FGP) initiative. This function encompasses everything from detailed project design and securing funding (from government budgets or development partners) to the day-to-day management, coordination, and problem-solving required to ensure these initiatives are executed effectively on the ground. It involves working with implementing partners across the country to deliver inputs, services, and infrastructure that directly benefit farmers and agribusinesses.

d. **Preparation of annual budgets based on sector programmes and projects:** To fund its planned activities, MoFA has the critical function of preparing its annual budget. This process involves costing out the programmes and projects outlined in the sector plan for the upcoming fiscal year. The Ministry must justify its budget requests by clearly linking each financial need to a specific, prioritized sector objective. This requires careful financial planning and negotiation with the Ministry of Finance to ensure that the agricultural sector receives the necessary resources to implement its mandate. The budget is the financial blueprint that enables all other functions to be carried out.

e. **Generation and dissemination of agricultural technologies and advisory services:** MoFA is the central channel for driving innovation and knowledge transfer in Ghana's agriculture. This function is primarily executed through its research institutions (like the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research - CSIR) and the Extension Services Directorate. The Ministry facilitates the generation of improved technologies, such as high-yielding seeds, pest control methods, and efficient post-harvest techniques, through research. Subsequently, it disseminates these technologies and provides advisory services to farmers through a network of extension agents. This bridge between research and practice is crucial for enhancing productivity, improving resilience, and ensuring that farmers have access to the latest agricultural knowledge.

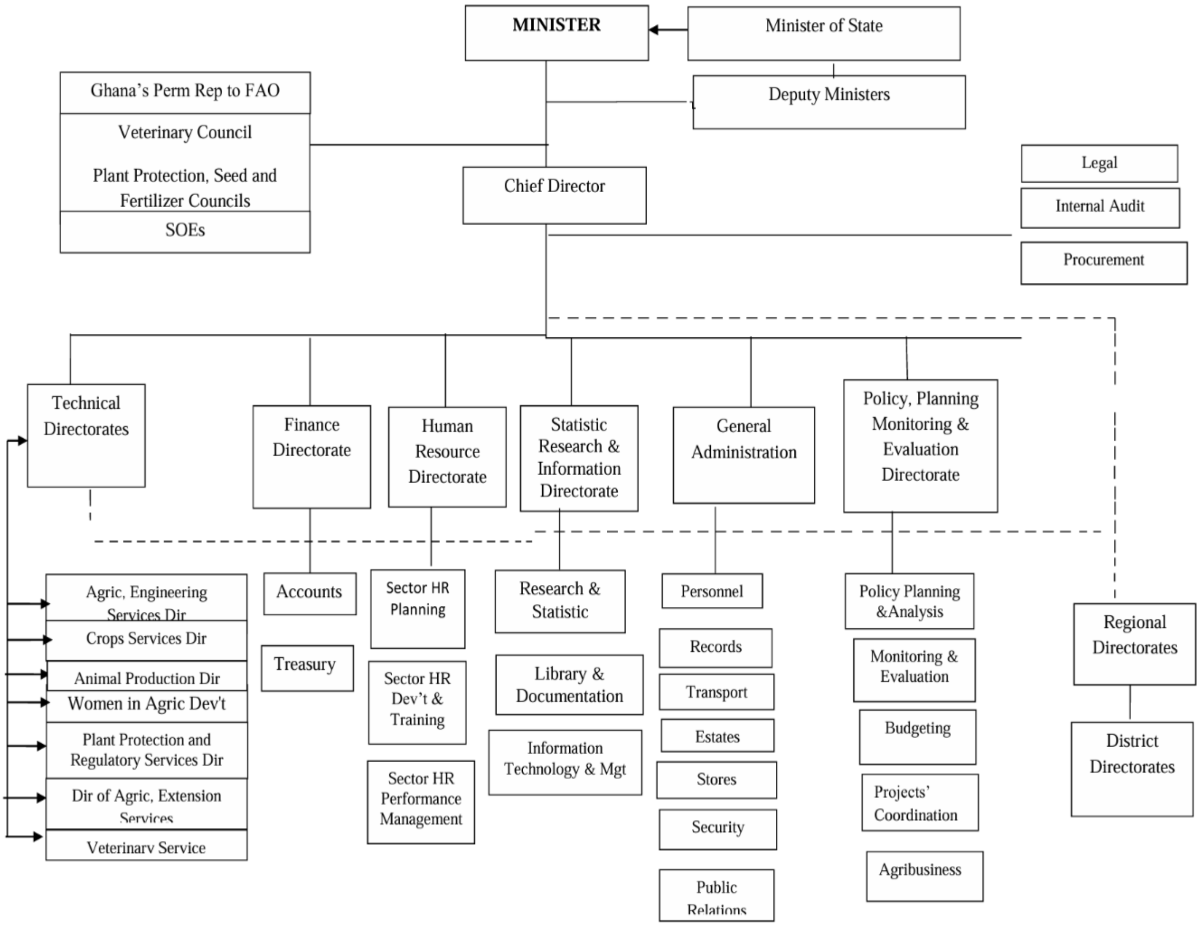
f. **Monitoring and evaluation of agricultural sector performance**: To ensure accountability and evidence-based decision-making, MoFA has the mandate to monitor and evaluate the entire agricultural sector's performance. This involves setting up systems to collect data on key indicators, such as crop production, farmer adoption rates of technologies, and programme outcomes, from the field. By systematically tracking progress against the targets set in its policies and plans, the Ministry can identify bottlenecks, measure the impact of its interventions, and determine the sector's overall contribution to the national economy (GDP). The findings from Monitoring and Evaluation are used to report to government and stakeholders, and most importantly, to inform future policy adjustments and planning, creating a cycle of continuous learning and improvement.

Core Values: The Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) strives for accountability, integrity, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness through fairness, confidentiality, meritocracy, equity and timely delivery of quality services.

1.3 Organogram of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture

This section provides the organogram of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) visually represents the hierarchical structure and functional divisions within the Ministry. At the top is the Minister of Food and Agriculture, who oversees the overall direction and strategic policies of the Ministry. Beneath the Minister are various departments and directorates, each responsible for specific areas such as agricultural policy, planning, research, and extension services. Key positions include Deputy Ministers and Directors who manage these divisions, ensuring the implementation of agricultural programs and initiatives. The organogram illustrates the flow of authority and communication within the Ministry, highlighting the collaborative efforts needed to achieve goals related to agricultural development and food security in Ghana.

Figure 1:MoFA Organisational Organogram



Source: MoFA, 2025

1.4 Structure of the Plan

This SMTDP has been developed in conformity with the planning guidelines issued by the NDPC and the National Development Planning Regulation, 2016 (L.I. 2232). This Plan is aimed at achieving Government's objective of modernising the agri-food systems to transform the economy of Ghana. It also provides a framework to galvanise the modernisation of the sector through the

Government’s flagship programmes and other initiatives including FGP and its derivative interventions.

Chapter One of the plan provides a brief background of the Ministry outlining its vision, mission, core values and functions. Chapter Two presents the performance of the agricultural sector in the last medium term, i.e. 2022 - 2025 as well as cross-cutting issues such as gender mainstreaming, climate change, and social protection among others. Chapter Three outlines prioritised development issues that need to be addressed earnestly and links them to the relevant development dimensions of the Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework (MTNDPF) 2026 – 2029.

Chapter Four presents the overall goal and policy objectives to be pursued in the medium term. It also presents the strategic direction of the sector whilst it outlines numerous strategies to address the identified issues under each policy objective. Chapter Five also provides the programming structure as well as the strategic framework within which this plan will operate. The Programmes and Sub – programmes together with their respective Investment Areas and Broad Activities are outlined in this chapter. Again, the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) which evaluates the environmental, social, and economic impacts of the plan has been indicated in this chapter.

Chapter Six highlights planned annual activities within the medium term 2026 – 2029 and indicates on-going and new initiatives within the sector that lead to the achievement of the sector policy objectives as outlined in the NMTDP, 2026 - 2029.

Institutional frameworks, mechanisms, and processes that will guide the execution, coordination, tracking, and evaluation of the plan's activities and outcomes are outlined in Chapter Seven.

Chapter Eight indicates the Communication Strategy. It answers how, what, when, and to whom information related to the plan will be communicated both during development and throughout implementation phases.

CHAPTER TWO

Situational Analysis

2.1. Introduction

This Chapter presents the performance of the agricultural sector in the last medium term, i.e. 2022 – 2025 as well as cross-cutting issues such as gender mainstreaming, climate change, social protection among others have also been discussed in this chapter. The performance review for the agriculture sector for the previous medium-term is presented in Table 1. The chapter ends with a summary of a list of current developmental issues in the agricultural sector.

2.1.1. Performance Review of the Sector

Macroeconomic Importance and Recent Performance

The agricultural sector remains a fundamental pillar of Ghana's economy, contributing approximately 21% to the national GDP and serving as the second-largest employer by engaging 38.3% of the population. Its role is critical for achieving food and nutrition security and earning foreign exchange, with cocoa bringing in about USD 2.0 billion annually and cashew emerging as a leading non-traditional export.

The period from 2021 to 2024 was one of significant volatility in terms of sector growth rate. After a strong peak growth of 8.4% in 2021, the sector's performance declined to 2.8% in 2024. Similarly, food price inflation has experienced same volatility over the period, soaring to about 59.7% in December 2022. These underscore the sector's acute vulnerability to global economic shocks, climatic adversities, and domestic challenges. This volatility was felt across subsectors: the crops sector suffered yield losses of at least 20% in 2024 due to dry spells; the livestock sector, particularly poultry, struggled with high feed costs and disease, maintaining a heavy reliance on imports exceeding US$300 million annually; and the fisheries and cocoa sectors continued to be hampered by underfunded initiatives and threats from illegal mining and disease, respectively.

Crops Sub-sector

Performance & Overview: The crops sub-sector is the largest within agriculture, contributing an average of 15.8% to national GDP. It is the primary engine for national food security. Production of major staples (cassava, yam, plantain, maize, rice) saw significant gains from 2017-2023, with output rising from 39.3 million MT to over 48.9 million MT, largely attributable to government initiatives including the input subsidy initiative. However, growth became volatile post-2021, and severe dry spells in 2024 caused yield losses of at least 20%, highlighting acute climate vulnerability.

Key Challenges:

- Low Productivity: Significant yield gaps persist due to low adoption of improved technologies. Average yields remain a fraction of potential: Maize (2.6 Mt/ha vs 8.0 Mt/ha potential), Rice (3.34 Mt/ha vs 6.0 Mt/ha), Soybean (1.83 Mt/ha vs 3.5Mt/ha).

- Input Constraints: Limited availability and high cost of quality inputs, especially certified seeds. For example, less than 50% of rice area uses certified seeds, and only 15-20% of soybean farmers use inoculants.
- Post-Harvest Losses (PHL): High losses range from 14-20% for cereals to 34-62% for vegetables due to inadequate drying platforms, storage facilities (e.g., only 5% of northern warehouses are for soybeans), and poor handling.
- Irrigation Deficit: Heavy reliance on rain-fed agriculture. Less than 10% of rice cultivation is under irrigation, exposing the sub-sector to climate shocks.
- Soil Degradation: Unsustainable farming practices, including continuous cropping and poor fertilizer management, lead to nutrient depletion and soil fertility decline. Additionally, the illegal mining menace continues to degrade agricultural lands in major mining areas.
- Market Inefficiencies: Weak linkages between producers and processors, and price volatility discourage investment. Local rice processors, for instance, face high raw material costs due to low yields, making them uncompetitive against imports.

Opportunities:

- Import Substitution: Massive potential to reduce the $2.3bn+ import bill by increasing domestic production of rice, wheat (via HQCF substitution), and vegetables (tomato, onion, pepper).
- Technological Adoption: Scaling up climate-resilient seeds, mechanization services through Farmers' Service Centres (FSCs), and precision agriculture can close yield gaps.
- Value Addition: Investing in processing infrastructure for staples (e.g., cassava starch, flour, yam chips) can reduce PHL, create jobs, and boost incomes.
- Protected Horticulture: Expanding greenhouse and shade house technology for high-value vegetables can enable year-round production and minimize climate risks.

Livestock Sub-sector

Performance & Overview: The livestock sub-sector is the second-largest contributor to Agricultural GDP (avg. 8.1%). The national herd population grew by 8% from 2018 to 2021. However, the sub-sector is dominated by smallholders and struggles to meet domestic demand. Local production fulfils only 44% of national meat consumption, with a severe dependency on imports, particularly for poultry ($300+ million annually).

Key Challenges:

- High Cost of Production: Feed constitutes up to 70% of production costs. The high cost of maize and soybeans, coupled with competition from other users, makes local producers uncompetitive.
- Animal Health Issues: Frequent outbreaks of diseases like Newcastle Disease and Avian Influenza (HPAI) due to inadequate veterinary services, poor biosecurity, and limited vaccine access cause high mortality and economic losses.

- Genetic Limitations: Low genetic potential of local breeds and limited access to improved breeding stock constrain productivity gains.
- Weak Value Chain Infrastructure: Inadequate processing facilities (especially for cut parts), cold chains, and market linkages hinder efficiency and profitability.
- Regulatory Gaps: Unregulated hatcheries operate below standards, resulting in poor chick quality and high mortality rates.

Opportunities:

- Poultry Revitalization: The three-pronged FGP strategy (large-scale commercial, small-medium scale, backyard "Nkoko Nketenkete") aims to boost domestic production and reduce import dependency.
- Feed Resource Development: Leveraging FSCs for feed pelleting and utilizing alternative feed resources can reduce production costs.
- Dairy Development: Potential to reduce 95% import dependency by restocking dairy farms, promoting AI services, and optimizing the use of rice by-products for feed.
- Structured Market Systems: Developing ranching systems, improving abattoirs, and implementing traceability can enhance value chain efficiency and food safety.

Fisheries Sub-sector

Performance & Overview: Fish provides about 60% of animal protein intake in Ghana. The sub-sector growth rate declined from 8.8% in 2022 to 2.5% in 2024. Total fish production in 2023 was estimated at 441,799.69 MT which was derived from marine (236,353 MT), inland capture (105,404 MT), and aquaculture (100,042 MT). This indicates that domestic production continues to fall short of national demand, necessitating significant imports.

Key Challenges:

- Stagnant Marine Capture: Overfishing and the use of illegal methods have depleted marine fish stocks, threatening sustainability.
- Underdeveloped Aquaculture: The Aquaculture for Food and Jobs (AFJ) programme has not been fully rolled out due to inadequate funding, limiting the growth of a crucial alternative production source.
- Post-Harvest Losses: Inadequate cold chain infrastructure and processing facilities lead to significant quality deterioration and losses along the coast.
- Weak Regulation: Enforcement against illegal fishing practices (like light fishing) remains a challenge, further depleting stocks.

Opportunities:

- Aquaculture Expansion: Tapping into the vast potential for pond and cage culture can significantly boost domestic production and reduce import reliance.

- Value Addition: Investment in processing (smoking, freezing, packaging) and cold chain infrastructure can reduce losses, improve product quality, and access premium markets.
- Stock Recovery: Strict enforcement of closed seasons and illegal fishing regulations can help rebuild marine fish stocks for long-term sustainability.

Cocoa Sub-sector

Performance & Overview: Cocoa is Ghana's largest agricultural export commodity, earning approximately USD $2 billion annually in foreign exchange. Productivity saw improvements, reaching 500 kg/ha under the Productivity Enhancement Programme (PEP). However, the sector faces existential threats that have disrupted production over the past few years leading to very low production outputs in recent times.

Key Challenges:

- Cocoa Swollen Shoot Virus Disease (CSSVD): This disease continues to devastate cocoa farms, requiring the cutting down of infected trees, which directly reduces production volume.
- Encroachment of Illegal Mining (Galamsey): Galamsey operations have destroyed vast tracts of cocoa farmland and polluted water bodies, rendering the land unusable for agriculture.
- Aging Cocoa Farms: Many cocoa trees are old and have declining yields, requiring extensive rehabilitation and replanting efforts.
- Price Volatility: Farmers remain vulnerable to fluctuations in global cocoa prices, impacting their incomes and investment capacity.

Opportunities:

- Rehabilitation & Replanting: Continued efforts to cut diseased trees and replant with disease-tolerant, high-yielding hybrid varieties are crucial for long-term sustainability.
- Value Addition: Increasing the local processing of cocoa beans into intermediate products (butter, powder, liquor) and finished chocolates within Ghana can capture more value and create jobs.
- Sustainability Premiums: Promoting certified sustainable cocoa production can access premium markets and improve farmer incomes.
- Farmer Diversification: Encouraging cocoa farmers to diversify with other tree crops or food staples can enhance resilience and food security.

Table 1: Performance Review for the Period 2022 – 2025

Development Dimension: Economic Development ***Focus Area: Agriculture and Agribusiness Development***						
Indicator	**Baseline**		**2022 – 2025 Medium-term target**	**Cumulative Achievement**		**Remarks**
	Year	**Data**		**Year**	**Data**	
Agricultural Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate (%)	2021	8.5	6	2024	2.4	
Share of Agriculture to National GDP (%)	2021	20.1	19	2024	21	
Percentage (%) Food Self-sufficiency: - Rice - Maize - Soyabean - Sorghum - Tomato - Onion - Peper - Cassava - Plantain - Yam - Poultry - cattle - Sheep - Goat - Pig - etc	2021	 32 82 71 68 31	 60 100 80 80 50	2024	 38.5 91 83 72 38	
Underweight (%)	2021	13	12	2024	11.2	
Stunting (%)	2021	19	18	2024	17.5	
Wasting (%)	2021	11	8	2024	6.8	
Coverage of flagship agriculture programme of Planting for Food and Jobs:						
- Number of Beneficiary farmers		1,655,624	1,300,000			
- Number of Extension officers		4,442			2,083	
- Total number of jobs created		701,683	468,947		879,986	
Ghana Commodity Exchange (GCX) and Warehouse Receipt System established and operational	2021	64	80	2024	96	

Total volume and value of agricultural commodities exported '000 Kg, (US$'000):	2021			2024		
- Cashew	2021	325,407 MT 287,458 USD	600,000 MT	2024	716,540 MT 3,494,926 (US$'000)	
- Coffee	2021	1 MT 5 USD	1.4 MT	2024	1.24 MT	
- Shea nut	2021	36,162 MT 20,194 USD	150,000 MT	2024	335,102.00	
- Maize	2021	6.25 MT 1,286 USD	17,092.93 MT	2024	60 MT 4,851 (US$'000)	
- Yam products	2021	34,787 MT 11,491 USD	45,000 MT	2024	37,293 MT 136,959 (US$'000)	
- Exotic vegetables	2021	1,480 MT 2,341 USD	2,000 MT	2024	3,732 MT 37,907 (US$'000)	
- Pineapple	2021	12,988 MT 9,465 USD	15,000 MT	2024	3,396.7 MT 59,981 (US$'000)	
- Mango	2021	4,708 MT 19,507 USD	5,500 MT	2024	5,819 MT 374,133 (US$'000)	
- Pawpaw	2021	1,124 MT 734 USD	1,500 MT	2024	1.685 MT	
- Banana	2021	98,796 MT 35,568 USD	105,000 MT	2024	117,831 MT 880,245 (US$'000)	
- Fish and sea food	2021	20,018 MT 28,408 USD	30,000 MT	2024	32,000 MT	
The share of credit to agriculture, forestry and fishing (excluding cocoa) by deposit money banks (millions of GHS)	2021	20,000.58	33,578.63	2024	39,000.95	
Share of Agriculture budget in Government expenditure (%)		4.1	10		3.1	
Total number of beneficiary farmers with access to various agriculture technologies	2021	1,740,000	2,200,000	2024	2,104,000	
Total amount of subsidized seeds distributed to farmers (metric tonnes)	2021	44,322.03	≥30,000 (cumulative over 3 years)	2024	Total - 54,655	
					Cereals/Legumes – 54,593	

					Vegetables – 61.90	
Extension officer-farmer ratio (excluding cocoa extension officers)	2021	12:49	1:1,500	2024	1:1,567	
Fertiliser application rate (kg/ha)	2021	20	50	2024	26	
Percentage of cultivated lands under irrigation (area developed for irrigation/ha):	2021			2024		
- Total area (formal and Informal)		70,089.57	150,000		207,772.85	
- Formal		16,908.85	18,254.85		18,772.85	
- Informal/Smallholder		53,180.72	120,387.62		189,000.00	
- Large scale commercial		21,000				
Average productivity of selected crop (Mt/Ha):	2021			2024		
- Maize		2.53	2.97		2.6	
- Rice (milled)		3.2	3.64		2.6	
- Millet		1.5			1.77	
- Sorghum		1.69	2.05		1.8	
- Cassava		23.77	25.65		24.48	
- Yam		19.15	20.25		18.91	
- Cocoyam		7.54	8.00		8.06	
- Plantain		13.79	14.35		14.51	
- Groundnut		1.84	1.90		1.93	
- Cowpea		1.67	1.82		1.88	
- Soybean		1.73	1.92		1.62	
- Cocoa						
Total Volume of selected cash crops produced (MT):	2021			2024		
- Cocoa		1,047,385	1,100,000		530,873	
- Shea butter		33,353.57	35,000.00		18,344.70	
- Oil palm		2,154,078	2,000,000		300,000	
- Cashew nut		160,000	160,000		161,000	
- Cotton		6,096.27	7,000.00		6,096.27	
Percentage post-harvest losses:	2021			2024		
- Maize		10–12%	9%		8–10%	
- Rice		11–13%	10%		9–11%	
- Sorghum		8–10%	7%		7–9%	
- Cassava		18–20%	12%		15–17%	

- Yam		20–30%	18%		18–25%	
- Fish (Marine)		15–18%	10%		12–15%	
- Fish (Artisanal)		20–27%			18–22%	
Size of national buffer stock (metric tonnes):	2021			2024		
- Maize (white)		80,000	93,562		35,000	
- Rice		30,000	25,525		12,000	
Number of young people engaged under the Planting for Food and Jobs	2021	701,683	700,000	2024	380,000	
Contribution of livestock to GDP (%)	2021	5.5	6.0	2024	3.5	

Source: MoFA – APR 2022, 2023, 2024, CAADP – BRR, 2023 & 2025 Ghana Report

NB. * Provisional

2.2. Financial Performance - Releases from GoG to MoFA (2022 - 2025)

The main sources of funding for the agricultural sector are: GoG (Consolidated Fund), Annual Budget Funding Amount (ABFA), Internally Generated Fund (IGF) and Development Partners as depicted in Table 2. The government of Ghana was the biggest contributor to the sector providing 69.2% of the total agriculture expenditure.

Table 2: Financial Performance

Source of Funding	Total Estimated Cost of Plan (IFJ, 2018 – 2021) (Million GHS)	Total Amount Received by MoFA (Million GHS)					Variance
		2022	2023	2024	*2025	Total	
GOG	7,459.14	498.210	231.97	2,737.39	0.00	*4,664.51*	*2,794.63*
GOG- (ABFA)		77.18	429.44	468.37	0.00		
GOG- (IGF)		3.51	4.06	5.710	0.00		
Development Partners	3,064.44	132.74	793.35	426.11	0.00	*1,352.20*	*1,712.23*
*Others	208.67	0.00	208.67	0.00	0.00		
TOTAL	**10,732.24**	**711.640**	**1,667.49**	**3,637.58**	**0.00**	**6,016.71**	**4,715.53**

Source: PBB, 2025, MoFA Financial Reports, 2022 - 2024

*OTHERS - Realized from refunds, interests earned on bank balances, foreign exchange and non-budgeted revenues

The total funding for the agricultural sector is summarized at the bottom of the table, indicating a total of approximately GHS 10.73 billion over the four-year period. The table outlines the annual allocations, showing fluctuations in the funding amounts, with the total expected to rise from GHS 711 million in 2022 to GHS 1.66 billion in 2024.

The noted variances in the funding amounts, which indicate discrepancies between the planned budget and actual releases. This variance analysis is crucial for understanding the financial health and responsiveness of the Ministry to its funding needs.

2.2.1. Opportunities for Transformation of the Sector (2026 - 2029)

Ghana's agricultural sector stands at a critical juncture. While it has demonstrated resilience and growth potential, its performance is hampered by persistent structural inefficiencies and emerging threats. The decline in growth to 2.8% in 2024 is a clear signal that business-as-usual is insufficient.

This SMTDP (NAIP, 2025-2029), which will largely be implemented through the Feed Ghana Programme (FGP), will therefore accelerate the transformation of Ghana’s agriculture sector, ensure food security, create sustainable employment and enhance economic growth. The Sector will leverage the following growing opportunities to transform into a modernised subsector of the economy building on past efforts:

- **Import Substitution:** Significant potential to replace over USD 2.3 billion in food imports by boosting domestic production of rice, poultry, vegetable oils, and processed goods.
- **Export Diversification:** High potential for expanding Non-Traditional Exports (NTEs) such as cashew, shea, mango, and coconut, especially under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).
- **Youth and Women Engagement:** A strategic focus on attracting youth and empowering women through agribusiness and innovative farming models can address unemployment and drive inclusive growth.
- **Technological Innovation:** Digital agriculture, mechanization services via Farmers' Service Centres (FSCs), and climate-resilient technologies offer pathways to leapfrog productivity constraints.
- **Private Sector Investment**: A conducive environment and targeted government interventions (e.g., through GIRSAL) can catalyze significant private investment in agro-processing and commercial farming.

2.3. SWOT Analysis of the Agricultural Sector

In this section, the SWOT analysis provides a comprehensive overview of the agricultural sector's current position, highlighting its strengths and weaknesses while identifying opportunities for growth and potential threats to its development.

Table 3: SWOT Analysis

Strengths	**Weaknesses**
• Policy Framework: Established agricultural policies (e.g., FASDEP) provide a structured approach to sector development. • Government Mandate: MoFA's role in policy formulation, sector planning, and programme implementation supports coordinated efforts. • Research Institutions: Presence of institutions like the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) facilitates innovation and technology generation. • Diverse Agricultural Base: A variety of agricultural products (crops and livestock) ensures potential for growth and market expansion. • Strategic Goals: Focus on food security and agro-industrialization aligns with national development objectives.	• Low Productivity: Stagnant yields due to low adoption of modern technologies and reliance on traditional farming methods. • Infrastructure Deficiencies: Inadequate irrigation, roads, and storage facilities hinder production and market access. • Limited Access to Credit: High collateral requirements and low financial inclusion restrict investment in modern agricultural practices. • Weak Extension Services: High farmer-to-extension officer ratios limit effective outreach, particularly to marginalized groups. • Underdeveloped Livestock Sector: Challenges such as high feed costs and inadequate veterinary services hamper growth in livestock production.
Opportunities	**Threats**
• **Increased Investment**: Potential for private sector investment in agribusiness and value chains can drive transformation.	• **Climate Change**: Erratic weather patterns and increased vulnerability to climate impacts threaten food security and productivity.

• **Technological Advancements**: Opportunities for integrating digital technologies and improved agricultural practices can enhance productivity. • **Regional Trade Agreements**: Agreements like AfCFTA can open up larger markets for Ghanaian agricultural products. • **Youth Engagement**: Initiatives to attract youth into agriculture can revitalize the sector and bring in innovative ideas. • **Climate-Smart Agriculture**: Adoption of climate-smart practices can improve resilience and sustainability in the face of climate change.	• **High Post-Harvest Losses**: Significant losses due to inadequate infrastructure and handling practices strain supply chains. • **Market Access Challenges**: Poor infrastructure and compliance issues limit competitiveness in local and international markets. • **Aging Farming Population**: The demographic shift towards an aging population in agriculture poses long-term sustainability risks. • **Dependence on Imports**: Reliance on imported inputs and feed can jeopardize domestic supply and increase production costs.

Source: MoFA JSR Report, 2025

2.4. Analysis of Existing Conditions

Despite some progress made and efforts over the years to accelerate the transformation of the agricultural sector, it continues to face structural and operational challenges that hinder the realization of its full potential. These include:

- **Low Production and Productivity:** The agricultural sector struggles with the low adoption of modern and innovative technologies. Factors such as limited access to quality inputs, insufficient extension services, and a reliance on traditional farming methods contribute to stagnant productivity levels. **Impacts**: This results in low yields for staple crops, which affects food security and reduces farmers' incomes. The sector's overall ability to contribute to economic growth is diminished.

- **High Post-Harvest Losses:** Post-harvest losses for vegetables can range from 34% to 62%, while losses for cereals range from 16% to 34%. **Contributing Factors**: These losses stem from inadequate harvesting techniques, limited storage infrastructure, and poor handling practices. Many farmers lack access to appropriate technology and training for effective post-harvest management. **Consequences**: High post-harvest losses not only diminish farmers' profits but also strain food supply chains, leading to increased prices and reduced availability of fresh produce in markets.

- **Inadequate Infrastructure:** Critical infrastructure such as irrigation systems, feeder roads, and storage facilities is lacking. This inadequacy hampers production, marketing, and processing capabilities. **Impact on Farmers**: Farmers are unable to access markets efficiently, which affects their ability to sell their produce promptly, leading to spoilage and waste. High energy costs, particularly for irrigation, further discourage investment in modern agricultural practices and infrastructure development.

- **Limited Access to Credit:** Financial Exclusion - Only a small percentage of agricultural actors can access financial services, with credit to primary agriculture accounting for just 4.7% of total credit in 2024. **Consequences for Growth** - This lack of funding restricts investment in modern farming techniques, equipment, and infrastructure, particularly for youth and smallholder farmers. High collateral requirements and limited availability of tailored credit schemes make it challenging for young entrepreneurs to enter the agribusiness sector.

- **Underdeveloped Livestock Sector:** The livestock and poultry subsectors encounter high feed costs, inadequate veterinary services, and recurrent disease outbreaks, which hinder growth and productivity. The reliance on imported feed ingredients leads to high production costs, affecting competitiveness against imported products. **Market Vulnerability**: These challenges reduce domestic supply and create a reliance on imports, jeopardizing food security and farmers' livelihoods.

- **Weak Extension Services:** The extension system suffers from a high farmer-to-extension officer ratio, limiting access to technical advice and support, especially for marginalized groups such as women and youth. Extension workers often have limited training opportunities, which affects their ability to provide effective support to farmers. **Impact on Adoption of technologies** - limited outreach of extension services slows down the adoption of modern agricultural practices and technologies, further impeding productivity.

- **Inadequate Funding for the sector:** Ghana's failure to meet the CAADP target of allocating 10% of its national budget to agriculture has led to chronic underfunding in the sector. This lack of funding weakens service delivery, delays critical activities like monitoring and evaluation, and limits the effectiveness of agricultural programmes. **Consequence -** Reliance on Donor Funding - Heavy reliance on donor support raises sustainability concerns, making it difficult to plan long-term initiatives effectively.

- **Limited Adoption of Science, Technology, and Innovation:** Despite the availability of improved seed varieties and digital technologies, low awareness, inadequate extension services, and high costs hinder farmers from adopting new technologies. **Impact on Competitiveness** - the slow pace of innovation uptake limits the sector's ability to boost productivity and adapt to climate change, affecting its competitiveness in regional and global markets.

- **Market Access Challenges: Infrastructure Deficiencies** - Poor infrastructure and weak farmer-buyer linkages limit farmers' ability to access markets effectively. **Compliance Issues** - Limited knowledge of quality and safety standards reduces competitiveness, particularly in the context of regional trade agreements like the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). **Impact on profitability** - These challenges prevent farmers from capitalizing on larger markets and benefiting from trade liberalization, ultimately affecting their profitability.

- **Seasonal Variability and Climate Change:** The predominance of rain-fed agriculture makes the sector vulnerable to seasonal fluctuations in food supply and prices. Climate change exacerbates unpredictability in rainfall, disrupting planting schedules and increasing the risk of crop failures, which threatens food security and farmer livelihoods.

- **Inequities in Access to Resources:** Women, youth, and persons with disabilities face significant barriers to accessing land, credit, and irrigation infrastructure, perpetuating inequalities in agricultural productivity. **Impact on economic participation**: This limits their ability to participate fully in the agricultural sector, reducing overall productivity and exacerbating poverty in these communities.

2.5. Summary of Key Issues for the Current Medium Term

Agriculture in Ghana within the plan period continued to be characterised by a number of developmental issues. Key amongst them are outlined in Table 2.2 below. These developmental issues were identified as part of the performance review of the agricultural sector over the past medium-term period.

Table 4: Summary of Development Issues

Broad Area	Identified Issues (from performance review and Profile)
Agricultural investments/ agribusiness	• High cost of production inputs • Limited access to land • Inadequate public-private investments in the agricultural sector
Production systems and post-harvest management	• Low application of technology, especially among smallholder farmers leading to comparatively lower yields • Low proportion of irrigated agriculture • Seasonal variability in food supply and prices • Erratic rainfall patterns • Inadequate access by women and persons with disabilities to irrigation facilities • High cost of energy for irrigation • Drying up and pollution of water bodies for irrigation • Poor storage and transportation systems • Poor farm-level practices • High cost of conventional storage solutions for smallholder farmers • Low quality and inadequate agricultural infrastructure
Science, technology and innovation in Agriculture	• Low transfer and uptake of research findings • Limited application of science and technology • Inadequate database of farmers • Limited insurance for smallholder • Inadequate agribusinesses along the value chain • Inadequate and poor quality data
Employment levels/youth in agriculture	• Ageing farmer population • Low interest in agriculture among the youth • Inadequate start-up capital for the youth • Lack of credit for agriculture • Limited insurance for smallholder farmers
Livestock and Poultry Development	• Low quality genetic material of livestock species • Low level of good husbandry practices • Low productivity and poor handling of livestock/poultry products • Inadequate feed and water availability, and quality standards for livestock • Inadequate and poor-quality data • Inadequate disease monitoring and surveillance systems • Low levels of value addition to livestock and poultry • Weak livestock extension services delivery
Agricultural Investments and Financing	• Agricultural Investments / Agribusiness • Inadequate Operational Funds
Infrastructure and Equipment	• Inadequate Storage Infrastructure and Equipment • irrigation systems as well as post-harvest facilities • undeveloped lands due to the high cost of land development

	• Poor storage and transportation systems • High cost of conventional storage solutions for smallholder farmers • Low quality and inadequate agricultural infrastructure
Extension and Advisory Services	• Inadequate Technical Expertise • Limited Access to Extension Services • Limited transfer of technical knowledge and access to advisory services. • Limited potential to optimize production
Market Access and Trade	• Poor marketing systems • lack of technical capacity • limited knowledge of modern agricultural practices • underutilization of land and missed economic opportunities due to poor understanding of market dynamics, selection of value chains, and commercialization strategies
Irrigation and Water Management	• Inadequate access to irrigation facilities by women, youth, and persons living with disabilities • High cost of energy for irrigation • Encroachment on designated irrigation site
Food and nutrition security	• Prevalence of micro- and macro-nutritional deficiencies • Weak nutrition-sensitive food systems • Inadequate nutrition education • Prevalence of hunger • Poor handling of food by value chain actors • Household food insecurity • Inadequate efforts to manage food maintenance systems • Poor access to nutrient rich foods, including fruits and vegetables • High post-harvest losses and waste, especially of fruits and vegetables • Weak food and nutrition security (FNS) institutional framework and coordination • Poorly coordinated M&E for FNS across sectors • Inadequate staff training on FNS at all levels • Weak food control systems • Poor funding of the FNS sector

Source: NMTDPF, 2026-2029, MoFA - AgSWG, JSR Reports, 2024

2.6. Needs Assessment for the Medium Term, 2026 - 2029

As Ghana's agricultural sector continues to evolve, MoFA must address various challenges and opportunities to enhance productivity, sustainability, and food security. This needs assessment outlines the medium-term requirements for MoFA from 2026 to 2029, considering projected population growth of 37.6 million by 2029, and its implications for agricultural demands. As Ghana's population is projected to grow significantly in the coming years, the demand for food and agricultural products will increase correspondingly. By prioritizing investments in infrastructure, capacity building, financial access, and technology adoption, Ghana can improve its agricultural landscape, and contribute significantly to food security and economic growth in the face of a growing population. The following are the critical needs for the sector in the Medium-Term:

Agricultural Policy Formulation and Sector Planning: To effectively navigate the complexities of the agricultural landscape, MoFA must enhance stakeholder engagement. Regular consultations with farmers, researchers, DPs and other Stakeholders will be essential to adapt policies and plans based on emerging trends and challenges. Furthermore, the development of updated policy frameworks that incorporate goals related to climate resilience, food security, and agro-industrialization will ensure that the sector remains aligned with national development objectives. Capacity development initiatives will also be crucial, equipping MoFA staff with the necessary skills for policy analysis and strategic planning.

Infrastructure Development: Investment in critical infrastructure is vital to enhancing agricultural productivity. MoFA would have to prioritize funding for irrigation systems, Farmer Services Centers (FSC), and storage facilities and feeder roads to facilitate better access to markets. Collaborating with private sector stakeholders through public-private partnerships will help finance and implement these infrastructure projects. Additionally, exploring renewable energy solutions, especially solar for irrigation and processing facilities will reduce operational costs and contribute to sustainability.

Access to Credit and Financial Services: To empower smallholder farmers and agribusinesses, MoFA must focus on developing tailored financial products that are accessible, particularly for youth entrepreneurs. Financial literacy programs will enhance farmers' understanding of financial management and investment opportunities, thereby fostering a culture of entrepreneurship within the sector. Strengthening collaborations with banks and microfinance institutions will further improve access to credit.

Extension Services: Increasing the number of extension personnel is essential for providing adequate support to farmers. MoFA should recruit and train additional extension workers to reduce the farmer-to-extension officer ratio and ensure effective outreach. Utilizing digital platforms for delivering agricultural information and advisory services can enhance efficiency and accessibility, particularly for women, youth, and marginalized groups.

Technology Adoption and Innovation: Investment in research and development is crucial for facilitating the adoption of improved agricultural technologies. MoFA should establish demonstration and training farms that showcase innovative practices, fostering a culture of experimentation and learning among farmers. Strengthening collaborations with research institutions like CSIR will promote knowledge transfer and technological advancement.

Market Access and Value Addition: To improve farmers' market access, MoFA must facilitate invest in market infrastructure and provide training on processing, packaging, and marketing of agricultural products to enable farmers to enhance value addition, ultimately increasing their incomes and reduce postharvest losses. MoFA also needs to facilitate the implementing quality and standards assurance systems which will further improve product quality for both local and international markets.

Climate Resilience and Sustainability: As climate change poses significant challenges, MoFA needs to prioritize climate-smart agricultural practices. Educating farmers on sustainable methods will enhance resilience to climate impacts. Expanding irrigation coverage is crucial to reducing reliance on rain-fed agriculture and improving productivity. Additionally, investing in research on climate adaptation will help develop effective strategies to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Youth Engagement in Agriculture: Attracting young people to the agricultural sector is essential for its long-term sustainability. MoFA must develop youth-focused programs that promote entrepreneurship and innovation. Creating mentorship opportunities that connect young farmers with experienced agricultural professionals will facilitate knowledge transfer and skill development. Furthermore, implementing policies that ease access to land and resources for young entrepreneurs will encourage their participation in agriculture.

Capacity Building and Human Resource Development: Finally, regular training programs for MoFA staff will enhance skills and knowledge, ensuring effective service delivery. While robust data management systems will support evidence-based decision-making.

CHAPTER THREE

Key Development Priorities

3.1. Introduction

The agricultural sector is inundated with challenges which has negatively affected its development and growth, even though the Government of Ghana has made significant effort in developing the agricultural sector. The sector needs to address these challenges and ensure the modernisation goal being pursued is achieved. This Chapter outlines these development issues and prioritises those that need to be addressed earnestly.

The Chapter also links the development issues to the relevant development dimensions of the Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework (MTNDPF) 2026 – 2029.

3.2. Prioritisation of Development Issues Linked to Development Dimensions of the NMTDP, 2026 - 2029

Table 4 outlines the prioritised development issues (shown by Asterix) categorised under the development dimensions of the NMTDP, 2026-2029. This prioritization was done through platforms such as Agricultural Sector Working Group (AgSWAG) and Joint Sector Review (JSR) platforms where agricultural development issues and efforts are discussed and prioritised for necessary interventions to be designed and implemented to address these issues. These platforms are constituted by key agricultural sector stakeholders including DPs, Farmer Groups, Private Sector, Civil Society, Research and Academia. The prioritisation process considered several criteria including effect of the issues related to the following:

i. Availability and affordability of major Ghanaian diets;
ii. Effect on Food and Nutrition Security;
iii. Supply of Raw Materials for Agro-Industry;
iv. Export Potential and Foreign Exchange Earnings;
v. Import Substitution;
vi. Employment and Wealth Creation;
vii. Climate Resilience and Environmental Sustainability; and
viii. Regional balance.

Table 5: Prioritized Development issues as categorized under Development Dimensions

DEVELOPMENT DIMENSION	FOCUS AREAS OF SMTDP 2026-2029	ADOPTED SUSTAINABLE PRIORITISED ISSUES
Economic Development	**Agricultural investments, agribusiness and Financing**	• High cost of production inputs* • Limited access to land • Inadequate public-private investments in the agricultural sector* • Inadequate access to credit and tailor-made financial products for the sector*

	Production systems and post-harvest management	• Low application of technology, especially among smallholder farmers leading to comparatively lower yields* • Low proportion of irrigated agriculture* • Seasonal variability in food supply and prices* • Erratic rainfall patterns* • Inadequate access by women and persons with disabilities to irrigation facilities • High cost of energy for irrigation* • Drying up and pollution of water bodies for irrigation • Poor storage and transportation systems* • High cost of conventional storage • Poor farm-level practices • Low quality and inadequate agricultural infrastructure*
	Livestock and poultry development	• Low quality genetic material of livestock species* • Low level of good husbandry practices* • Low productivity and poor handling of livestock/poultry products • Inadequate feed and water availability, and quality standards for livestock* • Inadequate and poor-quality data* • Inadequate disease monitoring and surveillance systems • Low levels of value addition to livestock and poultry • Weak livestock extension services delivery*
	Infrastructure and equipment	• Inadequate Infrastructure and Equipment* • irrigation systems as well as post-harvest facilities • undeveloped lands due to the high cost of land development • Poor storage and transportation systems • High cost of conventional storage solutions for smallholder farmers • Low quality and inadequate agricultural infrastructure*
	Market access and trade	• Poor marketing systems* • lack of technical capacity* • limited knowledge of modern agricultural practices • underutilization of land and missed economic opportunities due to poor understanding of market dynamics, selection of value chains, and commercialization strategies
	Irrigation and water management	• Inadequate access to irrigation facilities by women, youth, and persons living with disabilities* • High cost of energy for irrigation* • Encroachment on designated irrigation sites*
Social Development	**Food and nutrition security**	• Prevalence of micro- and macro-nutritional deficiencies* • Weak nutrition-sensitive food systems • Inadequate nutrition education* • Poor handling of food by value chain actors* • Household food insecurity • Inadequate efforts to manage food maintenance systems • Poor access to nutrient rich foods, including fruits and vegetables* • High post-harvest losses and waste, especially of fruits and vegetables* • Weak food and nutrition security (FNS) institutional framework and coordination* • Poorly coordinated M&E for FNS across sectors • Inadequate staff training on FNS at all levels • Weak food control systems • Poor funding of the FNS sector*
	Employment levels/youth in agriculture	• Ageing farmer population* • Low interest in agriculture among the youth*

		• Inadequate start-up capital for the youth* • Lack of credit for agriculture * • Limited insurance for smallholder farmers
	Science, technology and innovation in agriculture	• Low transfer and uptake of research findings • Limited application of science and technology • Inadequate database of farmers* • Limited insurance for smallholder* • Inadequate agribusinesses along the value chain • Inadequate and poor quality data*
	Extension and advisory services	• Inadequate Technical Expertise* • Limited Access to Extension Services* • Limited transfer of technical knowledge and access to advisory services* • Limited potential to optimize production*

Source: MoFA - AgSWG, JSR Reports, 2024
NB: * Prioritised issues within the medium-term

CHAPTER FOUR

Development Goals, Objectives and Strategies

4.1. Introduction

This Chapter presents the overall goal and policy objectives to be pursued in the medium term. It also presents the strategic direction of the sector whilst it outlines numerous strategies to address the identified issues under each policy objective.

4.2. Strategic Directions

Ghana's agricultural sector is on the brink of a transformative phase, with a strong emphasis on building resilient food systems whiles achieving food security and self-sufficiency in the medium term. This ambition is guided by several key strategic directions aimed at modernizing the sector and enhancing its resilience, productivity, and sustainability of Ghana's agri-food system.

A primary focus is on the modernization and adoption of technology. The integration of modern farming techniques, coupled with increased investment in agricultural research and development, is expected to significantly boost productivity. The government is committed to ensuring food security by facilitating increased domestic production and promoting nutrition-sensitive agriculture, which seeks to enhance the dietary quality of the population.

The development of value chains is another critical area of focus, particularly for major food staples and industrial crops. Strengthening these value chains and encouraging agro-processing will add value to raw agricultural products, thereby increasing economic returns for farmers. In light of climate change, building climate resilience is essential. This includes implementing practices that protect natural resources and enhance the sector's ability to withstand environmental impacts.

Investment and financing play a pivotal role in this growth trajectory. The government aims to encourage private sector involvement in agriculture while improving access to credit for farmers and agribusinesses. Enhancing rural infrastructure, such as roads and storage facilities, is vital to improving market access for farmers. Additionally, the regulatory framework will be strengthened to support agricultural development and ensure fair trade practices. Empowering farmers through capacity building and enhancing agricultural extension services will equip them with the necessary knowledge and skills. Promoting cooperative models will also be integral to this empowerment strategy.

With Ghana's population projected to grow from approximately 33.6 million in 2025 to about 36.34 million by 2029 (GSS, 2025), there are significant socioeconomic implications for food security, service provision, and industrial demand for agricultural raw materials. Therefore, plans must be implemented to meet the increasing demand for essential agro-commodities. The focus will be on self-reliance for major food staples and increasing import substitution of industrial raw materials through strengthened domestic Ghana food system.

To achieve a sector growth rate of at least 6% per annum, which is essential for contributing positively to national GDP, the government must allocate at least 10% of the national budget to agriculture. Targets also include increasing fertilizer consumption to 50 kg/ha by 2025 and improving the extension-farmer ratio to 1:500. These measures are expected to enhance the productivity of major food staples such as maize, soya, and rice, as well as poultry and poultry products across the country.

Digitization is a key component of the modernization drive within the agricultural sector. The Ministry aims to establish a national farmer database to improve targeting, efficiency, and transparency in delivering smart subsidies and other services that support commercial agricultural development.

In this medium term, the sector will continue to pursue the commercialization of farm enterprises, the development of commodity value chains, and the establishment of Community, Commodity Farmer Cooperatives (CCFCs) and cluster industry associations, such as the Tree Crops Development Authority, Horticulture Development Authority and Grains Development Authority. Efforts will also be made to enhance local and international marketing and trade of agricultural commodities through commodity exchange platforms, warehouse receipt systems and Farmer Service Centres (FSCs), while promoting the sustainable use of land and the environment. These strategic directions are critical elements in the vision for a transformed and modernized agricultural sector, which aims to be a productive, sustainable, and resilient component of Ghana's economy, significantly contributing to the nation’s overall development.

4.3. Development Goal, Policy Objectives and Strategies

The vision of Ghana’s food and agriculture sector aligns with the SDGs at the global level, the CAADP (agricultural component of the African Union Agenda, 2063) at the continental level, the ECOWAP framework at the sub-regional level, and the Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies (CPESDP) together with the sector policy (FASDEP) at the national level.

About 10 of the 17 SDG goals contribute to agricultural development whilst the African Union’s Agenda 2063 envisions inclusive growth and sustainable development across the continent, with agriculture playing a central role in fostering economic growth and improving livelihoods. Meanwhile the Kampala Declaration of the CAADP, recently adopted by member states utilizes an agri-food systems approach, and emphasizes collaboration, investment and innovation to transform agri-food systems into sustainable, resilient and inclusive engines of growth. At the regional level, the ECOWAS Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP) focuses on domesticating the objectives and commitments of the CAADP in West Africa while paying attention to the peculiarities that pertain to the sub-region including issues on transhumance, transmissible livestock diseases, sharing of genetic material for mutual benefit, among others.

In the medium-term, the vision for national development is to “reset Ghana by creating jobs, ensuring accountability and shared prosperity” as enshrined in the National Medium Term Development Policy Framework (NMTDPF, 2026-2029). In order to achieve the overall national goal, the government has strategized around five (5) Development Dimensions (DD) namely; (i) Economic Development; (ii) Social Development; (iii) Environment, Infrastructure and Rural Development; (iv) Governance, Corruption and Public Accountability; and (v) Ghana’s Role in International Affairs. The first Development Dimension - Economic Development consists of six

(6) Focus Areas (FA) – of which '*Agriculture and Agribusiness Development'* is one and it is anchored on the Government's Agriculture for Economic Transformation Agenda (AETA).

The goal of *Agriculture and Agribusiness Development Focus Area* is "to modernize agriculture and promoting agri-business to ensure food security, reduce food inflation, boost exports, and create sustainable jobs". It has eight (8) Policy Objectives as outlined below:

i. Create an enabling agribusiness environment;
ii. Enhance agricultural production and agri-business for economic transformation;
iii. Enhance Sustainable and Resilient Food Production System;
iv. Promote food transformation (processing and value-addition);
v. Build Resilience to Vulnerabilities, Shocks, and Stresses
vi. Improve post-harvest management;
vii. Promote agriculture as a viable business among the youth; and
viii. Promote livestock and poultry development.

The Ministry is contributing to achieving the ultimate goal of AETA by utilizing these Policy Objectives together with their corresponding specific strategies (see Table 5) in the development and implementation of this sector plan (SMTDP/NAIP).

The flagship initiative, the "**Feed Ghana Programme (FGP, 2025 – 2028)**" is the main vehicle for guiding investments in the agricultural sector within this medium-term. The FGP represents a bold response by the government to the identified challenges within Ghana's agricultural sector. It outlines a bold, strategic framework to strengthen Ghana's agricultural food systems, enhance productivity, supply raw materials to industries, and ensure that every Ghanaian has increased access to affordable nutritious food.

The programme recognizes the central role of farmer cooperatives in this quest; and prioritises specific value chains that offer high potential for enhancing food security, generating employment, fostering agro-industrial growth and promoting climate resilience. These include cereals and legumes (maize, rice, soybean, sorghum), vegetables (tomato, onion, pepper), starchy staples (cassava, yam, plantain), industrial tree crops (mango, cashew, coconut, oil palm, shea), and livestock (poultry, pigs, cattle, sheep and goats).

To achieve this bold initiative the Ministry has strategized around the following specific objectives under the FGP which aligns with the national objectives for the agricultural sector as outlined in NMTDPF (2026 – 2029):

i. ***Increase agricultural productivity and production to reduce imports:*** *Increase productivity of major staples such as maize (2.6Mt/ha), rice (2.6 Mt/ha) and soyabean (1.62 Mt/ha) to 4.05 Mt/ha (56%), 4.80 Mt/ha (85%), and 2.33 Mt/ha (44%) respectively by 2029.*

ii. Enhance food security, reduce the cost of a healthy diet and improve nutritional outcomes: *Improve Ghana's food self-sufficiency status of major food staples (target commodities) to at least 100% by 2029 to reduce the cost of a healthy diet and improve all the key nutritional outcome indicators such as increased food availability, intake and dietary diversity etc.*

iii. Increase raw material for agro-industry: *Increase raw material supply to agro-industry by at least 30% from local sources by 2029.*

iv. ***Enhance value addition:***
   - *Increase the percentage of agro-produce processed locally in this medium term.*
   - *Increase the number of agro-industrial firms and their processing capacities within this medium term by providing enablers for the private sector to invest in this space.*

v. ***Increase Agricultural Export:*** *Increase non-traditional agricultural export by at least 20% by the end of this medium term.*

vi. ***Create Jobs and wealth:*** *Creation of at least 900,000*[1] *direct jobs and 1,700,000*[2] *indirect jobs along the agricultural value chain by the end of this medium term.*

To effective pursue these objectives, the FGP is structured around nine strategic sub-programmes namely:

Crop Development: focuses on productivity gains through smart agriculture, improved seed systems, irrigation, mechanisation and post-harvest infrastructure.

Livestock Development: promotes animal production, genetic improvement, veterinary services and dietary diversification.

Farmers' Service Centres (FSCs): will establish 270 district-level one-stop centres to provide agricultural services including agro-inputs, mechanisation, market access, extension services.

Farm Bank Development: mobilises and rehabilitates underutilised land to establish production zones for smallholder and large-scale farmers.

Institutional Farming: support schools, faith-based institutions, security services, corporate bodies and other organisations in cultivating food to boost local production for consumption and training purposes.

Feed the Industry (Tree Crops Development): strengthens the supply of raw materials for selected tree crops used in agro-processing through the provision of better planting materials, quality assurance and processing infrastructure.

Agro-Production Enclaves – Develop 100,000 hectares into commercial hubs equipped with irrigation systems, roads, warehouses and processing facilities to attract investment and consolidate production.

Innovative Agricultural Financing: expands credit and insurance through blended finance, input credit schemes and risk-sharing mechanisms, leveraging GIRSAL and working with the Financial Institutions and their regulator, the Bank of Ghana, with a target to raise agriculture's share of total bank lending from a current 4.7% to 10% by 2028.

Institutional Development and Management Research: revitalises MoFA's Directorates and Agencies through targeted capacity-building, staff recruitment and improved regulatory enforcement. It will also undertake management research to enhance efficiency and performance

[1] According to the World bank (2017) – Jobs from Agriculture in Africa report estimated job creation in staple crops agriculture ranges from 10 to 25 jobs per 100 hectares, varying by crop intensity. These jobs created are estimated from the increment in area under cultivation.

[2] According to the ILO (2019) - In agriculture/rural value chains, every direct job can generate 1.5–2 indirect jobs in transport, processing, and services.

within the agri-food system.

Table 6: Developmental Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Programmes

Prioritised Issues	Goal	Objectives	Aligned National Objectives	Strategies	Developmental Programmes
Dimension/Thematic: Economic Development					
• Low application of technology, especially among smallholder farmers leading to comparatively lower yields* • Low proportion of irrigated agriculture* • High cost of production inputs*	*To 'modernize agriculture and promoting agri-business to ensure food security, reduce food inflation, boost exports, and create sustainable jobs".*	**Increase agricultural productivity and production to reduce imports:** Increase productivity of major staples such as maize (2.6Mt/ha), rice (2.6 Mt/ha) and soyabean (1.62 Mt/ha) to 4.05 Mt/ha (56%), 4.80 Mt/ha (85%), and 2.33 Mt/ha (44%) respectively by 2029.	Enhance agricultural production and agri-business for economic transformation;	**Crop Development:** focuses on productivity gains through smart agriculture, improved seed systems, irrigation, mechanisation and post-harvest infrastructure. **Farmers' Service Centres (FSCs):** will Establishment of 270 district-level one-stop centres to provide agricultural services including agro-inputs, mechanisation, market access, extension services. **Farm Bank Development:** mobilises and rehabilitates underutilised land to establish production zones for smallholder and large-scale farmers.	Feed Ghana Programme (FGP) FSRP PROSPER
• Seasonal variability in food supply and prices* • Low proportion of irrigated agriculture* • Erratic rainfall patterns* • Low quality genetic material of livestock species* • Low level of good husbandry practices* • Inadequate feed and water availability, and quality standards for livestock*		**Enhance food security, reduce the cost of a healthy diet and improve nutritional outcomes:** Improve Ghana's food self-sufficiency status of major food staples (target commodities) to at least 100% by 2029	Enhance Sustainable and Resilient Food Production System; Build Resilience to Vulnerabilities, Shocks, and Stresses Promote livestock and poultry development.	**Agro-Production Enclaves** – Develop 100,000 hectares into commercial hubs equipped with irrigation systems, roads, warehouses and processing facilities to attract investment and consolidate production. **Livestock Development:** promotes animal production, genetic improvement, veterinary services and dietary diversification. **Institutional Farming:** support schools, faith-based institutions, security services, corporate bodies and other organisations in cultivating food to boost local production for	Feed Ghana Programme (FGP), SIP, FSRP

				consumption and training purposes.	
• Low transfer and uptake of research findings • Limited application of science and technology • Poor funding of the FNS sector*		**Increase raw material for agro-industry:** Increase raw material supply to agro-industry by at least 30% from local sources by 2029.	Promote food transformation (processing and value-addition);	**Feed the Industry (Tree Crops Development):** strengthens the supply of raw materials for selected tree crops used in agro-processing through the provision of better planting materials, quality assurance and processing infrastructure.	Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)
• Inadequate public-private investments in the agricultural sector* • Inadequate access to credit and tailor-made financial products for the sector*		**Enhance value addition:** • Increase the percentage (%) of agro-produce processed locally in this medium term. • Increase the number of agro-industrial firms and their processing capacities within this medium term by providing enablers for the private sector to invest.	Create an enabling agribusiness environment; Promote food transformation (processing and value-addition);	**Innovative Agricultural Financing:** expands credit and insurance through blended finance, input credit schemes and risk-sharing mechanisms, leveraging GIRSAL and working with the Financial Institutions and their regulator, the Bank of Ghana, with a target to raise agriculture's share of total bank lending from a current 4.7% to 10% by 2028.	Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)
• Poor storage and transportation systems* • Poor marketing systems* • Inadequate and poor-quality data*		**Increase Agricultural Export:** Increase non-traditional agricultural export by at least 20% by the end of this medium term.	Improve post-harvest management; Enhance agricultural production and agri-business for economic transformation.	**Feed the Industry (Tree Crops Development).** **Innovative Agricultural Financing:**	Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)
• Ageing farmer population*		**Create Jobs and wealth:** Creation of at least 900,000[3] direct jobs and	Promote agriculture as a viable business	**Farmers' Service Centres (FSCs):**	FGP, SIP,

[1] According to the World bank (2017) – Jobs from Agriculture in Africa report estimated job creation in staple crops agriculture ranges from 10 to 25 jobs per 100 hectares, varying by crop intensity. These jobs created are estimated from the increment in area under cultivation.

• Low interest in agriculture among the youth* • Inadequate start-up capital for the youth* • Lack of credit for agriculture*		1,700,000[4] indirect jobs along the agricultural value chain by the end of this medium term.	among the youth; and	**Agro-Production Enclaves** **Farm Bank Development**	FSRP

[4] According to the ILO (2019) - In agriculture/rural value chains, every direct job can generate 1.5–2 indirect jobs in transport, processing, and services.

CHAPTER FIVE

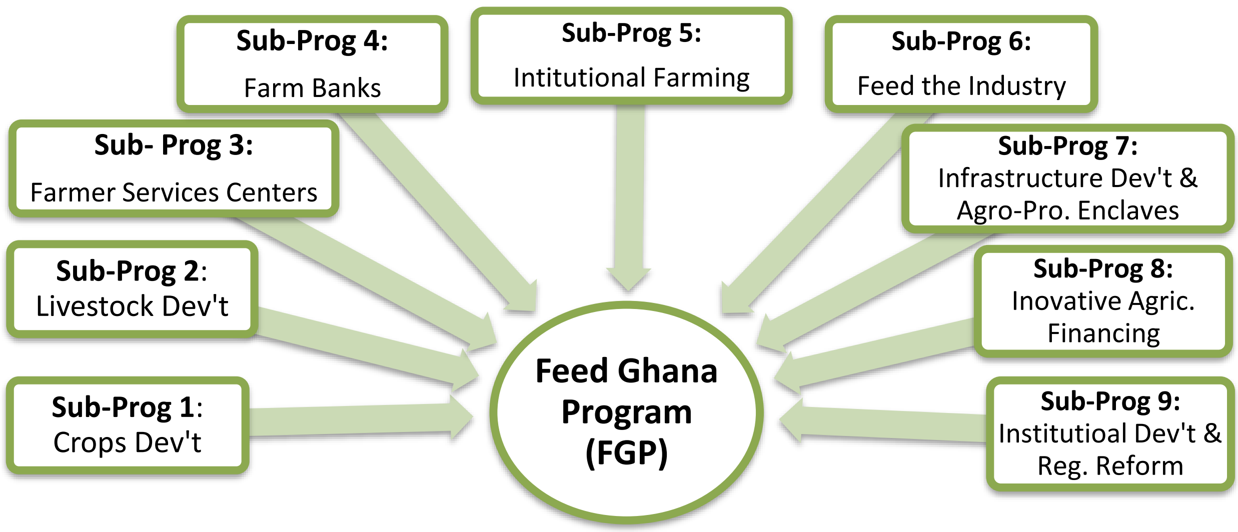
Composite Development Programmes

5.1. Introduction

This chapter provides the programming structure as well as the strategic framework within which this Sector Medium-Term Development Plan (SMTDP, 2026-2029) will operate. The Programmes and Sub – programmes together with their respective Strategies or Investment Areas and Activities were developed from the eight (8) Policy Objectives and Strategies of the Agricultural and Agribusiness Development Focus Area of the NMTDPF (2026 – 2029) as described in Chapter Four (4). These are developed to address identified development issues as outlined in Chapter Four (4) and will lead to achievement of the set targets and ultimate goal of the NMTDPF (2026 – 2029).

This Agricultural Sector Medium Term Plan has one major flagship Programmes[5] the Feed Ghana Programme with nine (9) Sub-Programmes[6] and several Investment Areas[7] and several Activities[8]. The four programme areas are as follows:

Figure 2: Flagship Programme for the SMTDP (2026 - 2029)



[5] **Programme:** A collection of Sub-programmes that are being implemented to address a development objective. A coherent, organized schedule of commitments, proposals, instruments and/or activities that elaborates and implements policy.

[6] **Sub-Programme:** A distinct grouping of complementary Investment Areas aiming to achieve a common objective.

[7] **Investment Area:** Comprises a selection of Broad Activities that are required to ensure a full complement of interventions.

[8] **Activities:** A basic intervention that provides a rationale, aim, eligible criteria for expenditure, implementing agencies, beneficiaries, and targets for the investment period.

The SMTDP (2026 – 2029) will be rolled out through the **Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)**. In addition, independent BA will be implemented by respective Directorates and other on-going initiatives such as Savannah Investment Project (SIP); FSRP; (c) PROSPER; (d) AWMP etc. Also, a combination of complementary strategies will be put together to form other projects when necessary.

5.2. Programme Description: The Feed Ghana Prgramme (FGP)

The Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) has introduced the Agriculture for Economic Transformation Agenda (AETA) to accelerate the growth and modernization of the agricultural sector. To implement this agenda, MoFA has designed the Feed Ghana Programme (FGP) as its flagship programme to provide food to the people and raw materials for the agro-industry. It is the umbrella programme for implementing all the initiatives under the AETA. This programme includes targeted strategies and specific projects focused on increasing food production and improving agricultural efficiency through modernized farming practices, infrastructure development and the creation of agro-industrial zones.

A core component of this programme is the establishment of Farmers' Service Centres (FSCs) across the country. These centres are strategically designed as one-stop hubs to provide farmers with timely access to essential inputs and services such as improved seeds, fertilizers, mechanization services, extension support, climate-smart technologies and market information. By bridging the gap between farmers and critical agricultural services, the FSCs aim to improve operational efficiency at the farm level and facilitate the transition toward more commercialized and modern farming systems.

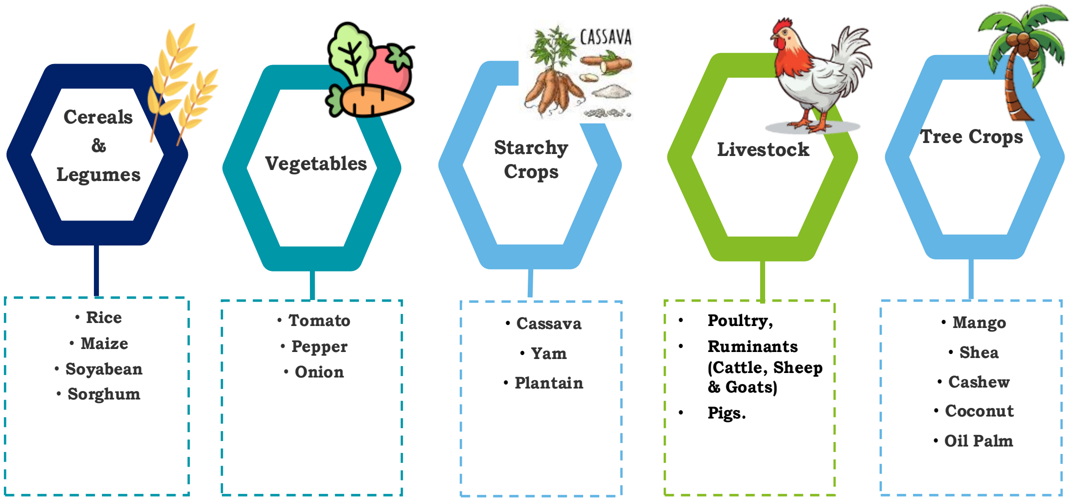
Additionally, the Feed Ghana Programme promotes investments in infrastructure, including irrigation systems and rural roads, alongside the development of agro-industrial zones to drive processing and reduce post-harvest losses.

Collectively, these efforts are expected to ensure food security, significantly mitigate food inflationary pressures, enhance agricultural exports and make a meaningful contribution to sustainable and long-term economic growth.

5.2.1. Priority Commodities

The selection of priority agricultural value chains for development under the FGP is based on their critical role in achieving food and nutrition security, their significance in the diet of Ghanaians, their potential contribution to foreign exchange earnings and their job creation potential. These value chains are shown in Figure 3:

Figure 3: Priority Commodities



Value chains not explicitly listed among the priority commodities will still receive targeted support through complementary projects and initiatives, ensuring broader sectoral development.

The Feed Ghana Programme will be implemented through nine (9) sub-programmes. It will focus on modernizing agriculture through smart[9] interventions and processes. The programme will leverage Farmers' Service Centres (FSCs) as strategic fulcrums to drive productivity growth and operational efficiency across the agricultural value chains. It will utilize FSCs as a foundation to promote productivity and production. Strategic investment will be made in infrastructure to support the production, marketing and processing of selected crops and livestock. In addition, its implementation will be underpinned by innovative financing, institutional reforms and strong regulatory frameworks.

5.2.2. Sub-Programme 1: Crop Development

Under this sub-programme, smart agriculture will be applied strategically in the production of selected crops to increase productivity and resilience. It has three (3) components – (i) cereals and legumes (ii) vegetables (*Yɛredua*) and (iii) starchy crops.

5.2.2.1. Component 1: Cereals and Legumes

Value chains prioritised under this component are maize, rice, sorghum and soybean. They are key food security staples and are used as raw materials for industrial production of alcoholic beverages, feed for livestock, and other products. Although the production of these

[9] Leveraging on research and technology to optimise agriculture processes

crops has increased over the years, a significant demand gap remains. Currently, 38.5% (MoFA, 2024) of rice consumed in Ghana is sourced locally.

The FGP will promote these commodities through improved access to quality inputs including seeds, fertilizers, other agrochemicals, extension services, access to storage facilities and processing. An overview of the selected value chains, challenges and planned interventions is described as follows:

Overview of the Value Chains

Maize Value Chain: Maize is a vital staple crop in Ghana, accounting for approximately 61% of the country's total cereal production in 2024 (SRID, 2024). It is cultivated across all agro-ecological zones, with significant production clusters at Sissala East, Sissala West, Gushegu-Karaga, Techiman, Ejura Sekyedumasi, Nkoranza, Sekyere Afram Plains and Afram Plains. Maize, the most widely consumed cereal in Ghana, accounted for an estimated 2.7 million metric tons of domestic consumption in 2023, contributing over one-third of the country's total caloric intake (IFPRI, 2020). National production in 2023 was estimated at 3.5 million MT and projected to rise to 6.6 million MT by 2028 (MoFA, 2024), exceeding the country's expected demand by approximately 50%.

Although Ghana exceeded its self-sufficiency in maize by 14% in 2022 (MoFA, 2023), production in 2024 fell short of national demand by 9% (SRID, 2025) due to severe dry spells experienced in some of the major production clusters. Issues of availability and affordability persist, primarily due to inefficient distribution systems and unregulated cross-border exports to neighbouring countries. While the country is technically self-sufficient, addressing the underlying challenges of low productivity and high post-harvest losses (14-20%) is crucial for achieving competitive pricing, boosting surplus production for export and supporting the poultry industry. To meet the growing demand for the poultry industry, yellow maize is imported to supplement domestic production, as the high cost of locally produced maize makes it relatively unaffordable. The FGP has outlined targeted interventions aimed at increasing maize production from 2025 to 2028 as indicated in the table 1.

Table 7: Production Targets for Maize (yellow and white) from 2025-2028

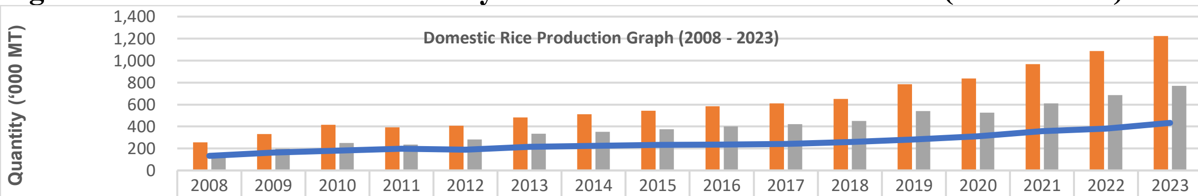
Years	Area (000 Ha)	Yield (MT/Ha)	Production (000 MT)	Net Production Available for Consumption (000 MT)	Total Demand (000 MT)	Deficit /Surplus (000 MT)	% Self Sufficiency
2024 (Baseline)*	1,268	2.60	3,293	2,641	2,916	(274)	91
2025	1,395	2.99	4,166	3,341	3,062	278	109
2026	1,451	3.29	4,766	3,823	3,199	623	119
2027	1,523	3.61	5,505	4,415	3,347	1,068	132
2028	1,629	4.05	6,598	5,291	3,516	1,775	150

Source: MoFA (2025) * Provisional

Rice Value Chain: Rice consumption in Ghana has increased significantly in recent years, driven by population growth, urbanization, and evolving consumer preferences. As a result, rice has become a key staple and an increasingly important crop in Ghana.

In 2023, the total national consumption of milled rice was estimated at 1.48 million MT, with a 33% increase in per capita consumption from 32.0 kg in 2017 to 45kg per annum in 2023. Similarly, domestic paddy rice production in 2023 doubled to 1.22 million MT from 0.61 million MT in 2017. The increase in production was largely due to an increase in the area under cultivation and minor yield increases, as indicated in Figure 4.

Figure 4: Trends in rice - Net Paddy Production and Area cultivated (2008 – 2023)



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Paddy ('000 MT)	256	331	417	393	407	483	512	543	583	612	651	783	836	968	1,087	1,224
Milled ('000 MT)	153	199	250	236	281	333	353	375	402	422	449	541	527	610	685	771
Area ('000 Ha)	133	162	181	197	189	216	224	233	236	241	260	282	311	357	382	433

Source: MoFA, 2024

In 2023, the average farm yield for rice was estimated at 3.33 Mt/Ha. However, the potential yield for rice under optimal conditions is 6.0 Mt/Ha. This suggests a significant yield gap of 2.7 Mt/Ha, highlighting the opportunity for productivity improvement through enhanced practices, improved inputs, and better access to irrigation, mechanization and extension services. In table 2, the FGP will, by 2028, improve rice yields to 4.8Mt/ha.

Table 8: Production Targets[10] for Rice from 2025-2028

Year	Area (ha)	Yield (MT/ha)	Production (MT) (Paddy)	Available for Consumption (MT) (Paddy)	Available for Consumption (MT) (Milled)	Total Demand (MT)	Gap/Surplus (MT)	% Self Sufficiency
2024 (Baseline)*	434,266	2.60	1,128,177	933,745	588,259	1,528,134	939,875	38.5
2025	477,693	3.70	1,767,463	1,485,146	935,642	1,573,978	638,336	59.4
2026	525,462	4.00	2,101,848	1,806,275	1,137,953	1,621,197	483,244	70.2
2027	578,008	4.20	2,427,634	2,088,632	1,357,611	1,669,833	312,222	81.3
2028	635,809	4.80	3,051,883	2,704,731	1,758,075	1,719,928	(38,147)	102.2

Source: MoFA (2025) * Provisional

[10] Assumption: Available paddy for consumption has taken into account: 2.3% seed and 13% post-harvest losses. Milling recovery rate of 63% from 2024 to 2026 and 65% from 2027 onwards due to installation of modern and efficient mills.

Sorghum Value Chain: Sorghum is a significant cereal staple in Ghana. It is one of the most cultivated cereals in Ghana. Sorghum plays a crucial role in food security and income generation for households and is primarily grown in the northern regions and transitional areas of Ghana. The crop is highly versatile and resilient, able to withstand drought, high temperatures, and poor soil conditions.

Sorghum provides energy, protein and essential nutrients for humans. It's waste also serves as a vital ingredient in animal feed formulations and alternative feed sources. There are two primary varieties of sorghum produced in Ghana – red and white. The white variety (kapala and dorado) sorghum is in high demand for industrial purposes - substituting imported barley in the brewery industry and producing ethanol and sugar. Red variety (kadaga and framaida) is mainly used as a staple food and in the production of beverages such as pito. It also serves as fodder for livestock and used for various local food preparations.

In 2024, the total cropped area for sorghum was 239,466 ha with a production value of 431,409 MT (table 3). The national demand for both industrial and human consumption reached 507,070 MT indicating a self-sufficiency level of 72%. Notably, the production levels of the Kapala and Dorado varieties of sorghum, which are suitable for industrial processing do not meet the demand by industries.

The sorghum value chain comprises four categories of farmers who produce for specific markets as follows:

i. Smallholder farmers cultivating traditional low-yield red varieties for household consumption and local brewing;
ii. Smallholder farmers targeting the industrial brewery sector with higher-yield white sorghum, receiving support from aggregators and commercial farmers;
iii. Medium-scale farmers supplying the brewery industry; and
iv. Commercial farmers producing exclusively for industry.

Table 9: Production Targets for Sorghum (White and Red) from 2025 -2028

Year	Area (Ha)	Yield (MT/ Ha)	Production (MT)	Available Consumption (MT)	Total Demand (MT)	Surplus/Deficit (Mt)	Self-Sufficiency (%)
2024 (Baseline)*	239,466	1.80	431,409	507,070	530,582	(147,965)	72
2025	275,385	2.25	620,151	593,405	627,203	(77,191)	88
2026	316,693	2.48	784,491	694,439	737,193	(41,428)	94
2027	380,032	2.72	1,035,528	812,675	869,111	49,299	106
2028	475,040	3.05	1,449,740	951,042	1,030,053	255,721	125

Source: MoFA(2025) * Provisional

Soyabean Value Chain: Soyabeans have grown to become a significant cash crop and the third most produced grain legume, after groundnuts and cowpeas, by small-scale farmers. These farmers typically cultivate soyabeans on small plots of around 0.5 hectares, relying primarily on manual labour for production. The crop's ability to fix atmospheric nitrogen reduces the need for fertilizers, making it a more sustainable and cost-effective option. Cultivation has mainly been concentrated in the Guinea Savanna zones, which account for 90 percent of the soyabeans trade, with additional cultivation in the Coastal Savannah and Transition zones.

Domestic demand for soyabeans in Ghana is primarily driven by the poultry and aquaculture subsectors, where soybean cake and meal are key ingredients in feed production. The extracted soyabean oil is used in various ways: for consumption, as well as ingredient in paint production.

Household consumption of soyabean in Ghana is currently low, although local demand is increasing due to new processing methods and products such as soyabean milk, khebab, yoghurt and soyabean fortified baby food. The high nutritional value of soyabeans is widely recognized, suggesting a strong willingness among consumers to incorporate soyabean products into their daily diets. Soyabean-based foods form significant component of the vegan diet, which is expected to continue growing over the next couple of years.

As an industrial crop, soyabeans could become a significant traded commodity, aligning with Ghana's industrialisation strategy, which prioritises exports and promotes import substitution. The total value of annual soyabean exports increased from $15.39 million in 2022 to $33.1 million in 2023 (GEPA, 2023).

The average annual growth rates of production and area cultivated from 2018 to 2022 were 8.1% and 20%, respectively. This finding suggests that the increase in production has primarily been attributed to area expansion, with minimal improvement in yields (MoFA, 2024).

Despite the consistent increase in production of soyabean, the local processing sector, with an estimated annual installed capacity of approximately 200,000 MT operates at only 40% - 50% due to factors including outdated equipment and competing export demands. Currently there are 12 major companies with only two having solvent extraction capacity to produce quality soyabean meal for feed. As a result, Ghana imports about 120,000 MT of soyabean meal annually (valued at $47.9 million in 2023) to meet feed demand. This underscores an opportunity for expanded local processing and reduced import dependency. The FGP seeks to increase production (table 4), processing capacity and increase soyabean exports.

Table 10: Production Targets for Soyabean from 2025 -2028

Year	Area (Ha)	Yield (Mt/Ha)	Production (Mt)	National Demand (Mt)	Total Consumption (Mt)	Net Production (Mt)	Surplus/ Deficit (Mt)	Self-Sufficiency (%)
2024* (Baseline)	188,566	1.62	304,639	295,357	210,059	243,711	(51,646)	83
2025	216,851	1.94	420,402	334,327	216,615	336,321	1,994	101
2026	238,536	2.04	485,564	359,333	223,375	388,451	29,118	108
2027	267,160	2.16	576,461	391,756	230,347	461,169	69,413	118
2028	307,234	2.33	715,965	438,006	237,536	572,772	134,766	131

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional

Proposed Interventions for Cereals and Legumes

i. **Enhanced Access to High-Quality Agro-Inputs:** To boost agricultural productivity under the Feed Ghana Programme (FGP), the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) will support the supply of certified seeds, fertilizers, inoculants, and pesticides. Farmers will access these inputs on credit bases from 2026 onwards.

Between 2025 and 2028, the FGP targets the distribution of a total of 214,692 metric tonnes of certified seeds, 2,130,000 metric tonnes of fertilizers, and 3,645,000 litres of pesticides across priority crops which are maize, rice, soybean, and sorghum. These inputs will support the cultivation of an estimated 7,979,000 hectares of farmland as indicated in Table 5.

Table 11:Quantities of Agro-inputs Required from the Immediate to Long Term

Commodity	Items	Immediate (2025)	Short Term (2026)	Medium Term (2027)	Long Term (2028)
Maize	Improved seeds (MT)	5,000	7,500	9,000	14,000
	Fertilizers ('000 MT)	122	150	180	280
	Pesticides ('000 Litres)	810	975	1,140	1,920
	Area (‘000 Ha)	1,315	1,338	1,360	1,512
	Expected Outputs (‘000 MT)	3,522	4,147	4,557	5,896
Rice	Improved seeds (‘000 MT)	47.8	52.5	43.4	47.7
	Fertilizers ('000 MT)	191.1	210.2	231.2	254.3
	Pesticides ('000 Litres)	8,400	9,200	10,100	11,100
	Area* (‘000 Ha)	478	525	578	636
	Expected Outputs (‘000 MT)	1,767	2,102	2,428	3,052
Sorghum	Improved seeds (MT)	300	350	400	450
	Fertilizers ('000 MT)	61	75	90	140
	Expected Outputs (‘000 MT)	51.0	59.5	68.0	76.5
Soyabean	Improved Seeds (MT)	3,469.61	4,770.72	6,411.85	8,602.56
	Phosphate Fertilizers (Mt)	21,685.09	29,816.99	40,074.04	53,766.00
	Inoculants (kg)	2,168.51	2,981.69	4,007.40	5,376.60
	Expected Output	336,321.00	388,451.00	461,169.00	572,772.00

***** *Area for mechanization***

ii. **Regular Soil Testing and Promotion of Specific Fertilizer Blends:** Improving soil fertility management is essential for boosting crop productivity and ensuring long-term sustainability in Ghana’s agriculture. One of the most effective strategies is the implementation of regular soil testing to determine the nutrient composition and needs of different soils. This allows for the development and promotion of site and crop-specific fertilizer blends tailored to the unique conditions of each agro-ecological zone. Under the FGP, MoFA will collaborate with the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) and private sector to promote the adoption of fertilizer blends and soil testing.

iii. **Support for Research and production of breeder, foundation, and hybrid seeds:** As part of the FGP, significant investments will be made to strengthen the capacity of research institutions in the development and dissemination of improved seed varieties. These efforts are central to enhancing productivity and building resilience within the grain value chains.

Between 2025 and 2028, the programme targets the production of 39 metric tons (MT) of breeder rice seeds, which will be used to generate 1,928 MT of foundation seeds and 111,650 MT of certified seeds for distribution to farmers.

In addition, dedicated funding will be provided to accelerate research focused on developing climate-resilient, pest- and bird-tolerant, and aflatoxin-free seed varieties across key grain crops. For sorghum, the programme aims to increase the availability of newly released varieties and ensure the multiplication of early-generation and certified seeds of industrial types to support large-scale certified seed production.

For soybean, the FGP will promote the development of high-stem varieties that are compatible with mechanical harvesting. Over the implementation period, foundation seed production for soybean is expected to increase fivefold, significantly increasing access to improved planting material.

iv. **Construction and Refurbishment of Storage Infrastructure:** Interested processors and agribusinesses (millers) in the rice value chain will be supported with long-term affordable credit for temperature-regulated silos in major rice-growing districts. Post-harvest infrastructure will be expanded to reduce losses and improve grain quality. Rice silo capacity targeted for 2025 is 50,000 MT and will increase to 200,000 MT by 2028 across targeted regions. For maize, existing warehouses in key production zones will be upgraded. In sorghum-growing areas, ten new warehouses will be constructed, each with a 1,000 MT capacity. Additionally, the programme will support the acquisition of drying machines, moisture meters and aflatoxin testing equipment for warehouses. In major soybean-producing regions, 125,000 metric tons of new warehouse capacity will be developed to enhance storage.

v. **Develop new and rehabilitate existing irrigation schemes to increase irrigable area:** A potential area of 260,000 ha identified in various districts will be developed. The proposed intervention would ensure an increase in the area under rice production. Appropriate water harvesting structures will be constructed to augment the existing ones. Broken-down schemes will also be rehabilitated and expanded. The irrigation schemes and inland low land valley indicated in Table 6 are prioritised for development, rehabilitation and expansion under the programme.

Table 12:Identified Schemes to be Rehabilitated and Expanded

Year	Action	Location	Irrigated Area (ha)
2025	Rehabilitation and Expansion	Weta Ashiaman Okyereko New Longoro	880 - 960 80 - 155 81 - 111 190 - 224

Year	Action	Location	Irrigated Area (ha)
		Aveyime Kpolu Bontanga Anum Valley Vea Dawhenya	56 - 120 65 - 100 495 - 570 58 - 140 10 - 850 200 – 300
	Development (Studies, design & construction) of 100,000 ha	Bono East, Ashanti, Northern, Eastern, Ahafo, Oti, Savannah, Central, Volta, Upper East, Upper West, North-East Regions	10,000
2026 – 2027	Rehabilitation and Expansion	Buipe Sabari Mongneigu Demon	0 - 110 200 - 220 80 - 90 60 – 70
	Development (Studies, design & construction) of 100,000 ha	Bono, Bono East, Western North, Ashanti, Western, Northern, Eastern, Greater Accra, North-East Regions	10,000
2028	Development (Studies, design & construction) of 60,000 ha	All 16 Regions	6,000

Source: MoFA, 2024

vi. **Land development for grain cultivation:** For soybeans, areas identified in the Upper West, Savanna, Oti, Northern, and Bono East regions will be developed to expand the area under production in the immediate to long term. This will be undertaken under the Farm Banks initiative to encourage youth into farming and expand grain production.

vii. **Improve Access to Mechanization Services through Farmers' Service Centres:** Mechanization support will cover all four crops, with rice farmers receiving particular attention. In 2025, mechanization services targeted to cover 478,000 ha of rice farms, expanding to 635,809 ha by 2028. Maize and soyabean farmers will gain access to mechanization services through the Farmers' Service Centres.

viii. **Extension Services Delivery and Capacity Building:** MoFA will invest in capacity building by training farmers, processors, and AEAs on GAPs, climate-smart technologies, integrated pest management and value addition of specific value chains, to reduce postharvest losses and enhance climate resilience. Demonstrations, ToTs, farmer field schools, and adaptive trials will be established to promote good agronomic practices in commodity growing areas.

ix. **Market Linkages and Policy Support:** To ensure a reliable market for farmers and stabilize prices, the NAFCO will be adequately resourced to purchase produce from anchor[11] farmers. This intervention will reduce postharvest losses, enhance farmer income security, and strengthen the linkage between production and markets. Additionally, the NAFCO operations will contribute to national food reserves and improve the efficiency of the agricultural value chain. To promote demand for locally produced and processed rice in Ghana, the import quota system will be strictly enforced, requiring traders to shift more to purchasing Ghana rice, progressively reducing import. Market promotion activities for domestic rice will include at least 10 annual events showcasing Ghanaian rice.

5.2.2.2. Component 2: Vegetable Development Project (YƐREDUA)

Ghana's high dependence on imported vegetables, especially tomato, pepper and onion, threatens food security, price stability and economic resilience. In 2024, Ghana's self-sufficiency levels for these vegetables remained relatively low, with tomatoes at 38%, peppers at 45%, and onions at 29%.

Local vegetable production is primarily by smallholder farmers, who often utilise rudimentary technology and employ poor agronomic practices. The average land size of smallholder farmers ranges between 1 and 3 acres, with actual yields significantly lower than the potential yields. Vegetable production is highly seasonal and concentrated in specific regions such as Bono, Bono East, Ahafo, Ashanti, Volta, Oti, Eastern, Greater Accra, and Upper East regions.

The Ministry is rolling out the **"YƐREDUA" Project**, under the FGP which is aimed at building a competitive and sustainable vegetable sector. The initiative focuses on boosting domestic production, enhancing market systems, and equipping farmers with the necessary support to increase productivity, improve incomes, and strengthen national food security.

Overview of the Vegetable Value Chain

Vegetables, including tomatoes, peppers, and onions, are an indispensable part of the daily diet of Ghanaians and account for a significant portion of vegetable expenditures in households. The demand for these vegetables remains persistently high throughout the year, consistently exceeding domestic production levels.

The national demand for tomatoes is estimated at 1.3 million MT, more than 2.5 times the local net production of 504,592 MT. Onion demand stands at 522,188 MT, which is 3.4 times the local production of 153,087 MT. For pepper, demand reaches 327,680 MT- more than double

[11] Anchor farmer- is a large-scale commercial farmer with a number of out-growers producing under his technical supervision and support

the local production of 147,704 MT. These significant gaps underscore the urgent need to boost local production and reduce reliance on imports.

Consequently, Ghana relies heavily on imports to supplement national production. According to the Ghana National Tomato Traders and Transporters Association (GNTTTA), more than 108,000 MT valued at approximately GHS 1 billion in 2022 – 2023 were imported from Burkina Faso. Additionally, substantial vegetables, including onions, were imported mainly from the Sahelian countries (including Niger, Mali etc), to augment demand, despite Ghana's comparative agroecological advantage.

Table 13: Targeted Production Levels of Priority Vegetables -Tomato (2025-2028)

Year	Area (Ha)	Yield (Mt/Ha)	Production (Mt)	Net Production	National Demand	Surplus/Deficit (Mt)	Self-Sufficiency (%)
2024 (Baseline)*	71,370	9.59	684,192	504,592	1,310,721	(806,129)	38
2025	78,507	10.55	827,873	610,556	1,338,248	(727,692)	46
2026	86,358	12.65	1,092,792	805,934	1,366,354	(560,420)	59
2027	99,312	15.19	1,508,053	1,112,189	1,395,053	(282,864)	80
2028	119,174	18.22	2,171,596	1,601,552	1,424,358	177,194	108

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional

Table 14:Targeted Production Levels of Priority Vegetables - Onion

Year	Area (Ha)	Yield (Mt/Ha)	Production (Mt)	Net Production	National Demand	Surplus/Deficit (Mt)	Self-Sufficiency (%)
2024*	11,549.45	20.78	239,947.91	153,086.77	522,188.35	(369,101.58)	29
2025	13,859.34	24.93	345,524.99	220,444.94	535,166.45	(314,721.51)	41
2026	16,908.4	30.17	510,063.99	325,420.82	549,552.78	(224,131.96)	59
2027	21,135.49	37.1	784,223.38	500,334.52	566,365.98	(66,031.47)	88
2028	26,419.37	46.38	1,225,349.03	781,772.68	586,758.67	195,014.01	133

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional

In table 8, the FGP aims to increase onion production by about 5 times the 2024 production level and increase yield from about 21MT/ha to 46MT/ha by 2028.

Table 15: Targeted Production Levels of Priority Vegetables - Pepper

Year	Area (Ha)	Yield (Mt/Ha)	Production (Mt)	Net Production	National demand	Surplus/Deficit (Mt)	Self-Sufficiency (%)
2024*	19,023	11.25	214,064.13	147,704.25	327,680.2	(179,975.95)	45
2025	20,925	12.94	270,791.13	186,845.88	334,562.06	(147,716.19)	56
2026	23,436	15.14	354,844.69	244,842.84	341,588.73	(96,745.89)	72
2027	26,248	18.17	476,911.27	329,068.77	348,763.35	(19,694.58)	94
2028	30,186	21.80	658,137.55	454,114.91	356,089.27	98,025.64	128

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional

Ongoing Initiatives in the Vegetable Sub-Sector

The FGP will build on these programmes, expanding its coverage and introducing new interventions to scale up vegetable production.

i. ***Tomato Intensification Programme:*** Under the West Africa Food System Resilience Programme (FSRP), MoFA launched the Tomato Intensification Programme in June 2023, targeting some key tomato production districts nationwide. The initiative is supported by the Norwegian government. It aims to enhance local vegetable production during the dry season, thereby addressing seasonal shortages and price fluctuations. As part of this programme, 1,500 Tomato farmers have received production inputs, including seeds, agrochemicals, and specialised fertilisers, along with training, to help increase yields from the average of 10 MT/ha to about 20 MT/ha.
ii. ***Release of Improved Seed Varieties*****:** MoFA in collaboration with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research's Crops Research Institute (CSIR-CRI) and the West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI) of the University of Ghana, is developing climate-resilient tomato seed varieties. These efforts ensure that farmers can access high-quality seeds, thereby enhancing yields and resilience against pests and diseases.
iii. ***Mainstreaming Market-Oriented Agriculture:*** Through the Ghana Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion (G-SHEP) project. The Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) are mainstreaming the SHEP approach to make Ghana's agricultural extension service system more market-oriented to improve the livelihoods of smallholder vegetable farmers.
iv. **HAPPY Programme*:*** Through the Harnessing Agricultural Productivity and Prosperity for Youth (HAPPY) programme, the MoFA has partnered with Agri-Impact Limited and the National Service Authority (NSA) to boost vegetable production across the country. This collaboration aims to establish nursery enterprises and provide technical support to young farmers.

The FGP will build on these programmes, expanding its coverage and introducing new interventions to scale up vegetable production.

Interventions for the Vegetable Sub-Sector

i. Land Development for Vegetable Production (Vegetable Enclaves): Under the *Yeredua* programme, exclusive enclaves for commercial large-scale vegetable farming will be designated to ensure optimal utilization of arable land. Infrastructure, such as storage facilities, access roads, and energy, will be provided in these enclaves to make them attractive to investors. Smallholder farmers will be encouraged to form cooperatives and participate in organised group farming with anchor farmers. Irrigation schemes will be established in major vegetable-producing areas/clusters (including boreholes, pumping machines, and rehabilitation of existing schemes).

ii. Upscale the Tomato Intensification Programme: Building on the success of the Tomato Intensification Programme under the West Africa Food System Resilience Programme

(FSRP), the Ministry, under the FGP, will upscale this impactful intervention nationwide. It will leverage the proven model of providing essential production inputs, including improved seeds, specialised fertilisers, and agrochemicals, as well as training in GAPs. Support for dry-season tomato production will be directed explicitly towards production clusters identified as having suitable climatic conditions for successful cultivation. Over 3,500 tomato farmers are targeted. This will significantly increase local vegetable production, mitigate seasonal shortages and price volatility, fostering greater resilience within Ghana's food system.

iii. **Investment in Mechanized Vegetable Production and Value Addition Initiatives:** The government will complete 27 aggregation centres, 12 vegetable packhouses and cold storage facilities initiated to minimise post-harvest losses. Farmers will be equipped with modern farming machinery, including seed drills, mechanical harvesters, and irrigation systems to boost productivity. Agribusinesses will be supported to invest in processing facilities for value-added products, such as tomato paste, chilli sauce, as well as drying systems for peppers, and curing spaces for onions and onion powder production. The Ministry will also promote cottage processing by providing training and facilitating access to requisite equipment to households to enhance value addition and reduce post-harvest losses.

iv. **Enhance Investment in Vegetable Research and Innovation:** Under the programme, there will be investment in the multiplication of early-generation seeds and certified seeds of the five released tomato varieties. Support will be provided for research to develop pest-resistant and high-yield vegetable varieties tailored to local conditions. Additionally, innovative farming technologies, such as drone monitoring and soil health sensors will be introduced to optimize production. Again, support will be given to farmer-led innovations through grants for piloting new methods and scaling suitable technologies.

v. **Technology Transfer and Dissemination:** Under this programme, Climate smart villages will be established and used for agriculture technology dissemination and transfer through farmer field schools, demonstrations and adaptive trials. This will be done through the National Extension System in collaboration with research institutions, academia and farmer cooperatives.

vi. **Incentives to Promote Backwards Integration Policy:** To ensure effective private sector participation, policy incentives such as input subsidies, commodity pricing, and other investment incentives will be used to promote Backwards Integration (BIP) especially for tomato production. The government will offer incentives to private investors. Companies in the vegetable processing sector will be encouraged to source vegetables locally. The government will facilitate partnerships between private investors and farmer cooperatives to enhance value chain linkages in the vegetable sector.

vii. **Promote and expand the area under protected cultivation (e.g., greenhouses, shade houses, etc.):** Building on the greenhouse villages established by MoFA, the government will provide incentives and training for farmers to adopt greenhouse farming and protected cultivation, thereby enhancing vegetable yields and mitigating the adverse effects of climate variability.

viii. **Develop a National Women and Youth in Vegetable Project:** This will specifically prioritize youth participation in vegetable farming and agribusiness. The government will train young entrepreneurs in seed production techniques and certification processes. Additionally, start-up grants and loans will be provided for youth-led production and other enterprises. Additionally, incubation hubs will be established and training provided on value addition, focusing on practical skills and business management.

ix. **Build Technical and Managerial Capacities of Agricultural Officers:** Agricultural officers and farmers' capacities will be built using various market-oriented approaches to enhance vegetable production. This will enhance their farm management and value chain development skills. Agricultural officers with the requisite expertise will be deployed to regions with high vegetable production potential to maximize impact.

x. **Regulatory support for Export Markets:** The government will provide technical support to empower farmers with the knowledge and skills required to meet stringent international sanitary and phytosanitary standards. This initiative will enhance the competitiveness of Ghanaian agricultural products in the export market, ultimately boosting the sector's contribution to the national economy.

xi. **Promote home, school and community gardening:** The *Y3redua* initiative will also focus on promoting home, school and community gardening through the supply of vegetable inputs and provision of technical support to these households and institutions. This will augment all year supply of vegetable to improve nutritional needs.

5.2.2.3. Component 3: Starchy Crops

Starchy staples, such as yam, plantain and cassava are essential foods commonly consumed in most households. Though Ghana is self-sufficient in these commodities, the FGP aims to increase production to feed agro-industry and meet export demand. This will be accomplished through strategic investments in research for the development of industrial-grade varieties and new products. It will also support local manufacture of improved machinery and equipment.

These crops form a significant portion of the national diet and provide substantial income for smallholder farmers. Despite their widespread cultivation, challenges such as low productivity, post-harvest losses, and limited value addition continue to constrain their full economic potential. Outlined under this component are the overview of the selected value chains, challenges and planned interventions.

3.1.3.1. Overview of the Starchy Crops

Cassava Value Chain: Cassava is one of the most widely cultivated crops, grown by approximately 90% of rural households and smallholder farmers, typically on holdings of up to 2 ha. There are also large-scale farmers with holdings above 50 Ha cultivating for industrial purposes. It has the highest volume of production among the starchy staples and is produced in all the regions except Upper East. Ghana ranks third in West Africa and fourth globally in cassava production, contributing about 7.8% of global output, with 26 million MT harvested from nearly 1.1 million Ha in 2022 (Tridge, 2022; FAO, 2022).

Over the past decade (2013–2023), cassava production has shown a steady upward trend, driven by both yield improvements and expansion in cultivated area. This is mainly due to several key interventions, such as the Presidential Special Initiative on Cassava (PSIC, 2001 - 2007), the Roots and Tuber Improvement and Marketing Programme (RTIMP, 2007 - 2014), and the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Programme (WAAPP, 2008 - 2019). These initiatives have led to the release of 30 improved cassava varieties, specifically tailored for both domestic consumption and industrial processing. The production targets for cassava are indicated in Table 10.

Table 16: Production Targets for Cassava

Year	Area (Ha)	Yield (Mt/Ha)	Production (Mt)	Net Production	Total Consumption	Surplus/ Deficit (Mt)	Self-Sufficiency (%)
2024 *(Baseline)	1,165,705	24.48	28,532,606.78	21,827,444	22,952,724	(1,125,280)	95
2025	1,282,275	25.95	33,269,019.50	25,450,800	24,262,177	1,188,623	105
2026	1,423,326	28.02	39,882,900.58	30,510,419	25,954,729	4,555,690	118
2027	1,608,358	30.26	48,673,091.87	37,234,915	28,090,308	9,144,607	133
2028	1,849,612	33.89	62,690,942.33	47,958,571	31,279,348	16,679,223	153

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional

Yam Value Chain: Yam is a major staple crop in Ghana, with about 95% of national production concentrated in regions such as Bono East, Northern, Upper West, Savannah, and Ashanti. In 2024, Ghana cultivated 603,502 Ha of yam, yielding 18.91 MT/ha to produce 11.41[12] million MT, surpassing the national requirement of 9.21 million MT (MoFA, 2024). Key producing areas include, Afram Plains, Sene West, East Gonja, Atebubu, Bimbila, Kpasa, Nkwanta North, Kpandai, Dambai, Techiman, Ejura Sekyedumase, Atebubu, and Zabzugu.

Ghana is currently the second-largest producer of yams globally. Yam exports reached a record of $48 million in 2022, accounting for 24% of the value of global yam exports (GEPA). – Recognising yams' export potential, the FGP has prioritised the crop for support through the promotion of seven high-yielding, improved varieties developed by CSIR-CRI and SARI. The programme aims to help achieve a self-sufficiency level of 159% (16.17 million MT) by 2028, contributing to food security and agro-industrial development (table 11).

[12] 11.41 Million MT represents gross production for 2024

Table 17: Production Targets for Yam

Year	Area (Ha)	Yield (Mt/Ha)	Production (Mt)	Net Production	Total Consumption	Surplus/ Deficit (Mt)	Self-Sufficiency (%)
2024*(Baseline)**	603,502	18.91	11,412,659.56	7,418,229	9,211,551	(1,793,323)	81
2025	663,853	21.75	14,437,014.35	9,384,059	9,404,994	(20,935)	100
2026	716,961	23.70	16,995,253.29	11,046,915	9,672,244	1,374,671	114
2027	788,657	25.84	20,377,308.70	13,245,251	9,912,073	3,333,178	134
2028	883,296	28.16	24,876,618.46	16,169,802	10,157,708	6,012,094	159

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional

Plantain Value Chain: Plantain is a key staple crop in Ghana, ranking third after cassava and yam, and serving as a significant source of calories across West Africa. With a national consumption requirement of 4.38 million MT, based on 132.4 kg per capita annually; Ghana is the second-largest producer in Africa, after the Democratic Republic of Congo. In 2024, Ghana produced an estimated 7.2 million MT of plantain at an average yield of 14.51 MT/ha, representing 72% of its potential yield. This output exceeds domestic demand, achieving a self-sufficiency level of 117%. However, the country faces seasonal gluts between September and February, leading to price drops and high postharvest losses due to poor handling and limited storage capacity. The FGP aims to address these challenges by promoting processing and export, targeting a self-sufficiency level of 158% (table 12).

Table 18: Production Targets for Plantain

Year	Area (Ha)	Yield (Mt/Ha)	Production (Mt)	Net Production	Total Consumption	Surplus/ Deficit (Mt)	Self-Sufficiency (%)
2024 *(Baseline)	497,570	14.51	7,219,061.18	5,414,296	4,614,695	799,601	117
2025	522,448	15.23	7,959,014.95	5,969,261	4,711,603	1,257,658	127
2026	548,571	16.00	8,774,813.98	6,581,110	4,810,547	1,770,563	137
2027	575,999	16.80	9,674,232.41	7,255,674	4,911,568	2,344,106	148
2028	604,799	17.64	10,665,841.23	7,999,381	5,060,113	2,939,268	158

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional

Interventions for Starchy Crops

i. **Planting Material Multiplication and Supply:** The program aims to boost industrial feedstock by identifying suitable production zones and supporting key institutions (e.g., CSIR-CRI, SARI, BNARI) in producing breeder, primary, and tissue-cultured planting materials. Key interventions include: site identification and mapping of production zones; institutional support for planting material production; enhanced production of quality planting materials; widespread distribution and scaling; and capacity building of farmers and complian**ce** in GhanaGAP, GLOBALGAP, traceability protocols, and modern planting material multiplication techniques.

ii. **Mechanisation Services for Land Preparation and Harvesting:** The FGP will facilitate the provision of mechanised services (ploughing, ridging, planting, harvesting) through FSC for 100 Ha initially in 2025 scaling up to 50,000 Ha in 2026, 100,000 Ha in 2027 and 500,000 Ha in 2028.

iii. **Establishment and Maintenance of Starchy Crops Fields:** The programme will facilitate the establishment of 50,000 to 100,000 Ha of cassava fields; 5,000 yam fields in 2025, increasing to 10,000 in the medium term and 20,000 Ha in the long term. In the case of plantain, up to 45,000 hectares will be established in 2025, rising to 90,000 Ha in the long term. Government support will entail the provision of planting materials, farm machinery and extension services to ensure sustainable field maintenance and increased productivity.

iv. **Storage, Processing and Aggregation Infrastructure:** This intervention aims to enhance postharvest systems by improving storage infrastructure in 14 districts including construction/renovating 14 yam barns/collation centres and 1 packhouse. It will also pilot and scale up technologies such as Modified Atmosphere Packaging (MAP) and radiation to extend shelf life, while promoting the production of value-added cassava and plantain products. The initiative will also train over 600 farmers, support agro-processors with credit and market access, empower women through VSLAs, and build the capacity of 3,840 women, youth, and PLWD. A national campaign will be rolled out to promote the consumption of pre-processed starchy crops.

v. **Market Linkages and Trade Facilitation:** This will include (a) register at least 100 FBOs and cooperative groups across starchy crop value chains; (b) Link commercial cassava producers to major processors (e.g., breweries, distilleries etc.) and FBOs (c) Connect producers to good practice and processing centres in key districts (e.g., Fanteakwa, Juapong, Bawjiase, Atebubu, Afram Plains); (d) Establish structured trade systems including, cross-border data collection system with PPRSD, grading and pricing mechanisms for yam and plantain and implementation of traceability systems for export yams.

vi. **Policy and Regulatory Support:** This intervention focuses on strengthening policy and regulatory frameworks to support the large-scale production and processing of these commodities. It includes finalizing the High-Quality Cassava Flour (HQCF) policy and targeting a 5–10% substitution of wheat flour in bakery products. MoFA will collaborate with Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) to develop and pilot standards for grading and packaging for plantain in two regions. Additionally, a traceability system for yams will be established with PPRSD. A Starchy Crop Development Strategy will be developed to guide the holistic development of value chains of key starchy crops.

vii. **Capacity Building and Training:** This intervention aims to build farmer and stakeholder capacity across starchy crop value chains. It includes training farmers and Agricultural Extension Agents (AEAs) on GAPs and adoption of improved technologies such as yam minisett technology and supporting farmer training on production standards such as GLOBALGAP to enhance export readiness. Exchange visits to best-practice centers will be facilitated, focusing on areas like waste management, food hygiene, and improved processing methods (e.g., smokeless stoves). Additionally, stakeholders will be sensitized on traceability systems, certification processes, postharvest handling, and market access protocols.

5.2.3. Sub-Programme 2: Livestock Development

Livestock development under the FGP aims to improve livestock productivity through the provision of improved breeds, access to quality feed and veterinary services, and the adoption of modern husbandry practices. It also aims to make a significant contribution to job creation, income generation, and a reduction in Ghana's dependence on imported meat and animal products. This sub-programme has two components: (a) Poultry Industry Revitalization and (b) Ruminants (cattle, Sheep and Goat) and Pigs Development Project.

5.2.3.1. Component 1: Poultry Industry Revitalization

The poultry subsector is a critical driver of Ghana's agricultural transformation, with immense potential to improve food security, generate employment, and reduce the country's heavy dependence on poultry imports. Currently, Ghana spends over US$300 million annually on chicken imports, highlighting an urgent need to boost domestic production and develop a resilient, self-sufficient poultry value chain (USDA, 2024).

Issues in the Poultry Industry

i. **High Cost of Feed**: Feed constitutes up to 70% of production costs. High cost of feed and poor quality has been among the major challenges facing the industry. This problem is caused by the high cost of maize and soybean meal, which are the two primary ingredients used in poultry feed preparation. Poultry farmers compete with the food industry, households, and foreign buyers for these ingredients, as there are no disaggregated markets. Additionally, economical and cost-effective alternatives have yet to be fully explored. This situation, coupled with the high cost of other inputs, makes Ghanaian poultry farmers uncompetitive.

ii. **Weak Animal Health Management System**: The poultry industry in Ghana is faced with challenges related to disease surveillance and management due to inadequate veterinary infrastructure, personnel, and logistics. Non-compliance with biosecurity protocols on farms has led to frequent outbreaks of diseases such as Newcastle Disease and Avian Influenza, causing high mortality rates and economic losses. Additional challenges include limited access and high cost of vaccines, unregulated and unhygienic hatcheries, poor biosecurity, misuse of antimicrobials, and inadequate cold chain facilities for vaccine storage, especially at the sub-national level. These issues collectively hinder industry competitiveness and productivity.

iii. **Weak Value Chain Linkages**: Poor infrastructure, limited processing facilities, inability to process to meet consumer specification/demands (cut parts), and the lack of market linkages hinder profitability.

iv. **Unregulated and Unstandardized Hatchery Operations:** Due to the lack of regulation and inadequate knowledge, most hatcheries operate below standard operational requirements, resulting in a poor hatchability rate and low chick quality. This situation results in lower productivity and a high mortality rate on poultry farms.

v. **Poor Poultry Value Chain Infrastructure:** Unsuitable poultry pens, substandard feed processing units, and limited storage facilities are limitations to efficient poultry production. Also, non-adherence to standard requirements such as appropriate structure orientation, adequate floor spacing and ventilation adversely affects optimum production.

As part of the FGP, MoFA is implementing a comprehensive three (3)-pronged poultry development strategy aimed at revitalizing the industry. This includes support for:

a) Large-scale commercial poultry farms (Poultry Farm to Table)
b) Small-to-Medium Scale Poultry Farms and
c) Backyard poultry farming *(Nkoko Nketenkete)*.

Support to Large Scale Commercial Poultry Farms (Poultry Farm to Table)

This initiative will focus on anchor[13] farmers who will work with out-growers to produce broiler chicken for the Ghanaian market. The initiative will begin with the selection of large-scale commercial poultry (broiler) farmers through a competitive application and screening process, prioritizing existing commercial farms with demonstrated capacity and infrastructure.

Interventions

The programme will facilitate bulk procurement and distribution of quality inputs, feed and vaccines. In the first year of the programme, selected commercial poultry farmers will be provided with day-old broiler chicks (DoCs) along with other accompanying inputs to produce 80,000 birds each. The number of anchor farmers will be scaled up in the subsequent years, as presented in Table 13. To complement this, the Government will provide technical support and introduce innovative financing options for the development and upgrade of critical infrastructure, including hatcheries, breeder farms, poultry housing, and processing plants. The programme, through anchor farmers, will explore marketing opportunities for mature or processed birds and collaborate with relevant institutions to promote the patronage of locally produced birds.

Table 19:Number of Anchor farmers, volumes and inputs needed

Items	**Year**			
	2025	**2026**	**2027**	**2028**
Number of Anchor farmers	50	70	90	120
Number of DoCs	4,000,000	5,600,000	7,200,000	9,600,000
Poultry (Broiler chicken) meat (Mt)	6,000	8,400	10,800	14,400
Average feed intake (MT)	18,000	25,200	32,400	43,200
Maize (MT)	10800	15,120	19,440	25,920
Soya (MT)	5,400	7,560	9,720	12,960
Drugs (kg)	32,800	45,920	59,040	78,720
Vaccines (doses '000)	16,000	22,400	28,800	38,400

Source: MoFA, 2025

[13] large scale commercial farmer is a poultry producer with a capacity of at least 20,000 birds.

The programme will also strengthen veterinary and extension services tailored to the needs of commercial poultry operations, ensuring improved animal health and productivity. To enhance value chain efficiency and reduce post-production losses, investments will be made in cold chain and poultry processing infrastructure, ensuring quality control and food safety.

Support to Small -To-Medium -Scale Poultry Farms

This initiative seeks to support poultry farmers with a production capacity of 500 to 2,000 birds, with the potential to scale up their operations. The Animal Production Directorate (APD) and Veterinary Services Directorate (VSD) will liaise with the District Departments of Agriculture in the selection of farmers. The focus will be on farmers with demonstrable potential to scale up.

Interventions

Each selected beneficiary will be supported with 500 to 2,000 birds to rear, depending on their operational capacity and infrastructure readiness. Essential inputs such as DoCs, feed, veterinary drugs, and vaccines will be provided. Prototype housing structures will also be provided, accessed and financed using an input credit system and other loan facility services with structured and favourable terms of payment. This will enable timely access to critical inputs without requiring upfront cash. Beneficiaries will be supported in forming Self-Help Cooperatives (SHC) to enjoy economies of scale through such arrangements. Poultry processing facilities would be provided and operated by these SHCs at the strategic locations near poultry production clusters to ensure quick and timely processing of harvested birds.

To enhance productivity and flock health, beneficiaries will receive hands-on training on Good Poultry Management Practices (GPMP). The programme will also ensure regular feed quality checks and strengthen veterinary service delivery[14] to reduce mortality.

To improve input availability and reduce costs, support will be provided for the establishment of small-scale feed mills and outlet points closer to farming clusters. Existing feed mills will be supported to scale up their production capacities. In addition, the programme will promote aggregation and collective marketing, enabling farmer groups to access better prices and formal markets, thereby enhancing profitability and resilience in the poultry value chain.

Household and Backyard Poultry Production (Nkoko Nketenkete)

"*Nkoko Nketenkete*" is a household-level poultry initiative under the FGP aimed at promoting food security, nutrition, and incomes. It will target women, youth, and vulnerable households. The intervention will provide starter packs and basic veterinary support to encourage small-

[14] See animal health targets for poultry in appendix 4

scale, sustainable poultry production at the household level. This intervention is designed to stimulate interest and participation in household-level poultry production.

Interventions

Beneficiary households will receive starter **packs** consisting of **improved dual-purpose breeds such as Kuroilers and ARIBRO.** Also, **pullets, battery cages, feed,** and **vaccines** for backyard poultry rearing will be provided. Each beneficiary will be supplied with 10-20 birds (6-week-old Kuroilers/ARIBRO) to be raised for meat and eggs, with a minimum financial contribution of at least 10% **from farmers.** A total of one million dual-purpose birds are expected to be raised for distribution to 50,000 households annually over the 4-year (2025-2028) period. A similar pack **comprising 120 pullets will be provided to each of the 4,000 farmers, mostly women, for egg production over the four-year period.** To ensure high survival rates and healthy flocks, the programme will provide **thermostable vaccines**, such as the I2 vaccine, and basic poultry health kits, adapted to rural and low-resource settings.

To encourage broad participation and community ownership, **mass sensitization campaigns** will be conducted to raise awareness about the **health, nutrition**, and **economic benefits** of backyard poultry. The programme will build **strong partnerships with** community leaders, **women and youth groups, faith-based organizations**, and **traditional authorities** to promote inclusive implementation. **Beneficiary targeting** will be done through a **community-based selection process**, with special emphasis on **women-headed households** and **unemployed youth**. Regional and District Departments of Agriculture (including District Veterinary staff) will lead in identifying eligible participants, using appropriate **tools to ensure** transparency in the selection process.

This holistic approach ensures that *Nkoko Nketenkete* will not only support household nutrition and income generation but will also strengthen rural resilience and community development through inclusive and well-targeted interventions. The national production targets for broiler chicken production based on the current existing processing capacities and self-sufficiency levels are summarized in **Error! Reference source not found.**.

The Project will leverage grains such as maize and soya that will be produced from interventions in the crops sector and explore ways of using feed ingredients and proven alternate feed resources that minimize the cost of poultry production. Additionally, the Farm Services Centres will be equipped with balers and feed pelleting machines for the conservation and utilization of feed resources.

Table 20:Production targets for Poultry (2025-2028)

Year	National production capacity (No. of birds that can be raised)	No. of production cycles/ year	Expected installed processing capacity (birds/hr)	Meat production /Target (MT)	Total consumption (MT)	Gap (MT)	% Self sufficiency
2024* (Baseline)			9,000	30,000	258,206		

2025	20,260,800	4	11,100	30,391	262,982	232,591	12
2026	44,452,800	4	24,000	66,679	266,927	200,248	25
2027	86,788,800	4	42,000	130,183	270,931	140,747	48
2028	139,204,800	4	52,000	208,807	274,995	66,187	76
2029	192,628,800	4	53,000	288,943	279,120	-9,824	104

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional

Based on the existing national processing capacity of 11,100 birds/hr, a total of 30,391 MT of broiler chicken can be produced in 2025 employing a 3-shift system within 24 hours. This production level can be scaled up progressively to achieve a self-sufficiency level of 104 per cent by 2029, if the processing facilities are scaled up to 53,000 birds per hour using the 24-hour shift system. It is expected that initiatives from other sources will add to the government-planned interventions to achieve the desired targets.

5.2.3.2. Component 2: Ruminants and Pigs Development

Livestock production is a source of income for farmers in the country, and its socio-economic importance in employment creation and poverty reduction cannot be overemphasized. It supports the livelihoods of many rural households and supplies essential animal protein to the population.

Ghana's meat production struggles to meet national demand, resulting in substantial imports. In 2023, the country imported live animals worth approximately $17.7 million, with cattle, goats, and sheep constituting 70% of these imports from neighbouring countries including Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali, and Nigeria (GSS, 2023). Additionally, frozen meat (from ruminants and pigs) imported into the country totalled over $75 million (MoFA, 2023). The heavy reliance on live animal imports and animal products underscores the need for strategic interventions to boost local production and reduce dependency on external sources. Dairy production in the country has also not performed well with up to 95% of the country's needs met by imports.

Pig production also contributes to food and nutrition security as well as improved livelihoods. While the industry is projected to grow, it is often characterised by small-scale farmers with significant opportunities for development in areas such as breeding, housing, feeding, and veterinary services.

Interventions

a. Small Ruminants - Sheep and Goats

i. Support farmers with improved breeds at subsidized rates, mainly targeting the youth.
ii. Support National Livestock Breeding Stations and the Techiman Disease Investigation Farm through restocking and provision of production inputs (including pasture development, feed, medication, and housing infrastructure).
iii. Promote feed development for smallholder farmers -pasture, baled straw, customized feed for small ruminants, feed pelleting and use of by-products.
iv. Development of vaccination plan for ruminants.

v. Increase livestock vaccine production[15] and vaccination coverage.
vi. Enhance veterinary infrastructure and diagnostic capacity.
vii. Strengthen veterinary public health and meat safety systems.
viii. Develop animal identification and traceability systems.

b. Piggery

i. Support farmers with improved breeds at subsidized rates
ii. Support national Livestock Breeding Stations through restocking with grandparent stock to improve the local stock bloodlines and to multiply and disseminate to targeted outstation breeders and farmers nationwide.
iii. Support the breeding stations with production inputs (pasture development, feed, medication, and housing infrastructure) and other logistics.
iv. Support feed development for pigs, including feed pelleting and agro by-products.
v. Strengthen veterinary public health and meat safety systems.
vi. Conduct targeted surveillance on African swine fever, including periodic sero-monitoring.

Table 15 presents the level of expected intervention for small ruminants (sheep and goats) and pig production in the immediate to medium term.

Table 21:Production Targets for Small Ruminants and Pigs

	No. of animals to be raised							
Year	**Sheep**	**Goats**	**Pigs**	**Total expected no. of animals**	**Meat production /Target (MT)**	**Total consumption (MT)**	**Gap (MT)**	**% Self sufficiency**
2024*(Baseline)					4,880	154,923		
2025	46,954	39,128	125,209	211,291	5,124	157,789	152,665	3
2026	51,649	43,041	137,730	232,420	5,893	160,156	154,263	4
2027	59,396	49,497	158,390	267,283	7,071	162,558	155,487	4
2028	71,275	59,396	190,068	320,739	7,425	164,997	157,572	4
2029	89,094	74,245	237,585	400,924	9,281	167,472	158,191	6

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional

According to MoFA, as captured in Table 15, the country's current small ruminant and pig production is far below self-sufficiency levels within the short to medium term. This, therefore, justifies a concerted effort to address the issue even from a modest level. A target of 211,291 animals comprising sheep, goats and pigs will be provided to farmers across the country at subsidized rates and on a need basis. This will be scaled up in subsequent years. This

[15] See animal health targets for ruminants and pigs in Appendix 5

intervention sets the tone for a revival and support system aimed at bridging the import gap in the foreseeable future. Given the short gestation periods of sheep and goats and the prolific nature of pigs, it is anticipated that such support for livestock farmers will enhance meat production along the small ruminant and pig value chains. It will also increase animal protein intake among the citizenry, particularly benefiting the youth and encouraging them into profitable employment ventures, which aligns well with the FGP.

c. Dairy

i. Restock, retool and support Amrahia Dairy Farm to serve as a dairy training centre for farmers.
ii. Training of Artificial Insemination (AI) technicians at the breeding stations to enable them to offer AI services to farmers nationwide.
iii. Support the establishment of baling centres on commercial basis, close to rice-producing areas, to optimize the use of rice by-products for feeding cattle.
iv. Support dairy farmers to optimize production, and processing of milk into milk products such as yoghurt, cheese, ghee, etc. and marketing of the same through training and improved nutrition strategies.
v. Support VSD with diagnostic kits and PPEs to provide prompt animal health services to dairy farmers.
vi. Support the development of marketing outlets for milk and dairy products.
vii. Improve infrastructure for cattle markets and upgrade existing abattoirs to meet standard.
viii. Develop grazing reserves and mobility corridors for transhumance cattle to reduce farmer-herder conflicts.

5.2.4 Sub-Programme 3: The Establishment of Farmers' Service Centres (FSCs)

The establishment and operation of Farmers' Service Centres (FSCs) is a key initiative within the FGP, strategically designed as an innovative hub to improve the accessibility of farmers, especially smallholders, to essential agricultural inputs and services. A typical FSC will provide the following: inputs (seed, fertilizer, pesticides, veterinary drugs and vaccines), agricultural mechanization services, veterinary services, extension services, agribusiness advisory services, warehouses, primary and secondary processing facilities and market linkages. The market linkages will be established through off-taker arrangements with the National Buffer Stock Company (NAFCO), the Ghana Commodity Exchange (GCX), and other private aggregators. A total of 270 FSCs will be established across the country within the programme period.

Rationale

Agriculture in Ghana continues to face persistent challenges, including low productivity, limited access to quality inputs, inadequate infrastructure, weak market systems, limited number of professionals operating along the value chain nodes, inadequate extension services, and difficulty in accessing funds. Smallholder farmers who form the backbone of the sector, often struggle to obtain certified seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, and modern farming technologies. Access to mechanization services is limited, especially in rural areas. This hampers timely and efficient farm operations.

These challenges are further compounded by the fragmentation of agricultural support services, which are often distant, uncoordinated, or unaffordable for many farmers. Past government initiatives have aimed to enhance access to input and improve service delivery; however, their impact has been limited due to implementation challenges, including inadequate coverage.

In response to the need for improved access to holistic agricultural services, the FSCs present a strategic solution designed as one-stop hub to provide farmers with easy access to essential agricultural inputs and services. Where necessary, the FSCs will include services for the poultry and livestock sub sector. The FSCs aim to improve the quality, timeliness, and efficiency of input and service delivery, while strengthening knowledge transfer and linkages along agricultural value chains. By decentralizing and integrating critical services, FSCs will enhance productivity, farmers' incomes, food security, job and wealth creation, and rural economic transformation.

5.2.4.1. Key Features of the FSCs

a. **Management:** FSCs will operate on Public-Private Partnership basis with selected private sector operators. This will involve private enterprises or cooperatives ensuring long-term sustainability.
b. **Agricultural Input Provision**: FSCs will offer farmers high-quality agricultural inputs such as animal feed, certified seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, vaccines and improved breeds.

c. **Mechanization Services**: it will provide a full complement of agricultural machinery and equipment suitable for the various agro-ecological zones. The services will cover land development and preparation, planting, fertilizer application, weed and pest control, harvesting, primary processing, among others. It will employ well-trained and licenced machinery operators and mechanics to operate and maintain the equipment. The FSC will ensure an adequate and continuous supply of spare parts for all machinery and equipment.
d. **Extension Services**: These include both on and off-farm training programmes, Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), animal husbandry advice, pest and disease management, demonstrations, veterinary services and post-production services to improve farming practices and productivity. Weather and market information will also be disseminated.
e. **Market Linkages**: This feature will connect farmers with buyers and markets, enabling them to sell their produce more profitably and on time. The market linkages will be established through off-taker arrangements with National Buffer Stock Company (NAFCO), Ghana Commodity Exchange (GCX) and other private aggregators.
f. **Climate-Smart Agriculture**: This will promote sustainable practices such as the use of improved seeds and drought-tolerant varieties to help farmers adapt to climate change while reducing environmental impact. It will also introduce digital solutions and climate-smart technologies to enhance efficient farm management and increase productivity.
g. **Business Advisory Services**: The FSC operators in collaboration with relevant agencies, will build the capacity of value chain node managers and operators in business management, marketing, financial management, and customer service skills. The business aspect will also provide hands-on agribusiness training for value chain nodes managers and operators.

5.2.4.2. Operationalization and Management

The successful operationalization of FSCs is central to achieving the goals of the Feed Ghana Programme. The government will provide the necessary infrastructure, machinery and equipment for the FSCs, whilst its management will be structured under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement guided by the PPP Act 2020 [16].

Management: Managers of the FSCs will be classified as anchor operators who will be entrusted with the daily operations of each FSC. The FSC Anchor Operators will be selected through a competitive process. The selected anchor operator will be expected to have a set minimum capital and capacity to operationalise the centre. Existing private farm service centre

[16] Refer to PPP Act 2020 - Sections 5&8

operators and machinery service providers will be given the opportunity to participate in the FSC initiative by leveraging their existing infrastructure.

Governance: A governing Board[17] will be constituted to provide strategic guidance and oversight for the management of the FSC.

Credit Support: To further support inclusivity and reduce barriers to entry, the FSCs model incorporates a credit system where farmers registered with FSCs can access inputs and services on a deferred payment basis and repay in-kind. This will specifically target smallholder farmers, women, youth and people living with disabilities (PLWDs) who often lack access to formal credit.

Geographic Targeting: The FSCs will be geographically located to serve a specific district and other adjoining districts, ensuring that agricultural support services are localized and accessible. This spatial targeting will enable efficient service delivery, reduce travel time and costs for both farmers and operators, facilitate cost recovery, and promote equitable access across regions. Fifty FSCs will be established in the first year (table 16) expanding to 270 over the programme period.

Table 22:Number of FSCs to be Established

Period	Year	Number of FSCs
Immediate	2025	50
Short-Medium Term	2026	80
	2027	80
	2028	60

Source: MoFA, 2025

Target Beneficiaries

The FSCs is open to all farmers and will prioritize the following groups: (i) Women (ii) Youth (iii) Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) (iv) Farmer-Based Organizations (FBOs).

The FSCs will provide customized support such as technical training on GAPs, improved seeds, mechanization services, vocational mentorship, financial literacy, access to credit, and adaptive tools for PWDs. Women will be empowered through leadership training and support for women-led enterprises. The youth will benefit from skills development and innovative farming tools, making agriculture more attractive and sustainable.

[17] Including: Coordinating Director of Assembly /representative, District Director of Agric., Representative of Farmer group (2), Traditional Authority, FSC Anchor Operator, Regional Director of Agric/Representative, Business Advisory Centre/Business Resource Centre Head, Regional Veterinary Officer, District Veterinary Officer, National Security Operatives.

To ensure equitable distribution of resources and effective monitoring, all participating farmers will be registered, and their farms will be geolocated to determine acreage and capacity. Inputs and services including seeds, fertilizers, and mechanization will be provided based on the type of commodity and farm size. This data-driven and inclusive approach is designed to enhance efficiency of operations.

5.2.5 Sub-Programme 4: Farm Bank Development

Farm Banks are structured agricultural production zones that provide farmers with secure land access and infrastructure and will be developed under FGP to attract youth and women into farming.

Under this initiative, MoFA will collaborate with Regional Coordinating Councils, District Assemblies and Traditional Authorities to identify and develop suitable public and privately owned lands for agricultural purposes. These lands will be allocated to registered farmers (individuals, groups and associations) to cultivate one or more of the priority crops.

The privately owned lands will be leased (in-kind[18] or cash) to the Government for development. The land development will entail clearing, soil testing and constructing infrastructure, such as irrigation and storage facilities, where applicable. The government will monitor progress, maintain infrastructure, and ensure sustainable land use. Environmental and social impact assessment tools will be deployed under this sub-programme to ensure sustainable land development and ecological integrity.

Accessing lands for agricultural purposes is challenging due to the complex land ownership and cumbersome land acquisition processes. Additionally, developing such lands is expensive and requires government intervention. The creation of the farm banks is therefore essential to improve access to agricultural lands especially for smallholder farmers and the youth.

5.2.5.1. Establishment of Farm Banks

Farm Banks initiative will be rolled out across the country for nationwide impact. Some FSCs will be sited close to the Farm Banks to provide technical, mechanization, input and market support services. A total of 100,000 Ha is targeted for development under this initiative. The process for establishing farm banks involves;

i. **Land Identification**:
   - Identify and review the suitability of existing Government agricultural lands.

[18] Lease in kind refers to an arrangement where a portion of the developed land is given to the owner as payment of the lease

- A call by the FGP secretariat in collaboration with Regional Coordinating Councils and District Assemblies for nomination of lands by interested Landowners/Traditional Authorities.
- Assessment of these agricultural lands based on soil fertility, accessibility to water resources, and other relevant factors for suitability.

ii. **Land Allocation**: Developed lands will be allocated to youth, women, PLWDs, commercial/anchor farmers, and smallholder farmers under an inclusive model.

iii. **Land Management**: GIDA will manage and conduct routine monitoring to ensure effective land and water use, as well as the performance of the infrastructure. For lands with irrigation facilities, scheme Management Entities or Water Users' Associations will oversee the operation and maintenance of the facilities.

5.2.6 Sub-Programme 5: Institutional Farming

Institutional farming refers to agricultural operations owned and/or undertaken by institutions, either governmental or private. In Ghana, institutions such as the security agencies, National Service Authority (NSA), Youth Employment Agency (YEA), Religious-Based Organization and some educational institutions (Senior High Schools, Universities, etc) have maintained institutional farms[19] to primarily supplement food and nutritional needs, research and development, as well as the provision of practical training. Over time, these initiatives have evolved into more structured programs, often aligned with national agricultural policies. With the provision of appropriate and structured support, institutional farming will improve food production and security, skills development, job creation, build interest in agriculture and promote technological transfer.

Interventions

Under the FGP, the institutional farming component will identify institutions and organizations to be supported to own and manage a farm. This support will extend to institutions with already established farms as well as those with the intention of commencing.

The institutions are expected to leverage existing agricultural activities to scale up food production to supplement their food supplies or sell. Through innovative programmes and partnerships, the institutions will not only cultivate crops and rear animals but also promote interest in agriculture among participants, students, and religious leaders, among others. It will also nurture hope and opportunities for prison inmates.

Specifically, the FGP seeks to support institutions in the following areas:

1. **Provision of Input Support:** Input subsidies or credit schemes will be provided to institutional farms through the FSCs to increase their access to certified seeds, fertilizers, agrochemicals, improved breeds of livestock, and other inputs.
2. **Infrastructure and Mechanization Support**: Facilitate institutional financing or grants for infrastructure development.
3. **Land development for cultivation:** The program will provide support for the development of lands identified by institutions.
4. **Provision of Agricultural Advisory Services**: Institutions will be linked to district and regional agricultural officers, as well as private extension service providers, to receive the necessary technical support for effective and sustainable agricultural production.

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[19] An institutional farm is any crop and/or livestock production enterprise managed by public, private, or educational institutions, such as ministries, research centers, universities, or corporate bodies, primarily for production, research, training, or demonstration purposes.

5. **Financial Support and Access to Credit:** Institutions will be supported in accessing funding through banks, projects, grant schemes, and agricultural insurance products. Additionally, they will be linked to service providers to help them develop proposals to access financial facilities.
6. **Improve Access to Ready Markets:** FSCs located near institutional farms will facilitate market linkages and also provide direct market access.
7. **Capacity Building for staff of Institutional Farms:** Through the FSCs initiative and with support from the DADs and DAES, staff of institutional farms will undergo periodic training on farm management and other skills to enhance their technical capacity in farm operations.

Target Institutions

Through the institutional farming sub programme, the FGP will target a broad range of public and private institutions that are either currently engaged in farming or demonstrate the potential to undertake farming activities. These institutions will include:

i. National Service Authority
ii. Security agencies such as the Prisons Service, the Ghana Armed Forces, the Ghana Immigration Service and the Police Service.
iii. Youth Employment Agency (YEA).
iv. Agricultural Research Stations.
v. Religious-Based Organizations, including churches, mosques, mission schools, orphanages and hospitals, etc.
vi. Educational Institutions such as Senior High Schools (SHS), Agriculture and Educational Colleges, TVETs, Farm Institutes and Universities
vii. Corporate Farms.

5.2.7 Sub-Programme 6: Feed the Industry

The tree crop sector plays a pivotal role in Ghana's economy, contributing significantly to GDP, export revenues, employment, and rural livelihoods. Crops such as cocoa, oil palm, cashew, rubber, shea, mango, citrus and coconut drive economic activity and support millions of households. Among the tree crops, cocoa has been a major foreign exchange earner for the country. However, the other tree crops also have the potential to earn the nation more foreign exchange with the right investments to develop and strengthen their value chain.

The FGP, through the TCDA and its interventions, will boost the production of local raw materials to ensure a consistent and sufficient supply of high-quality agricultural produce for industrial use. This sub-programme outlines key interventions to be undertaken to upgrade the prioritised tree crops for the benefit of the nation.

Cashew Value Chain

Cashew requires very little input for its management, grows in dry areas and is well adapted to the transitional and savannah areas of the country. These and other positive characteristics of the crop have captured the interest of the Government, development partners, and the private sector, leading to investment in the sub-sector.

Cashew has become a prominent export commodity since 2002. It is currently the second-leading non-traditional export (NTE) in agriculture, earning the nation about $225.7 million in export revenue in 2023 (GEPA, 2025). This represents 45.5% of $496.82 million received from the total agricultural NTE sub-sector in 2023 (GEPA, 2025). It is estimated that there are over 280,000 cashew farmers with a total of 272,432 ha of cashew plantations yielding about 252,932 MT of Raw Cashew Nuts (RCN) as at the 2023/2024 season (MoFA, 2024).

Interventions

The following interventions have been developed to address the issues identified;

i. **Productivity improvement programmes**: TCDA, under the FGP, will spearhead the widespread promotion and adoption of improved agronomic practices, including the production, propagation and introduction of high-yielding and disease-resistant cashew clones from certified nurseries. Farmers would be sensitized and supported to observe good agronomic practices for optimal yields and high-quality RCNs. This will include replanting and/or rehabilitation of old plantations using recommended plant populations. Extension services provision would build the capacity of farmers to increase their productivity. Additionally, access to quality inputs such as fertilizers, certified seedlings, tools and equipment, would be pursued, along with the establishment of demonstration farms to serve as practical learning platforms. Under the FGP, we aim to increase cashew yield from the current 0.95MT/ha to 2.0MT/ha by 2028 (see table 17).
ii. **Sensitization of value chain Actors:** Cashew value chain actors especially farmers, aggregators, traders and exporters will be sensitized on the RCN quality management.

Under the FGP, the Tree Crop Development Authority (TCDA) will strengthen the enforcement of regulations and standards on cashew aggregation, trading and export in accordance with the TCDA Act (Act 1010) and L.I. 2471.

iii. **Quality Control:** TCDA, in collaboration with MoFA, will establish a quality control and inspectorate unit in the medium to long term to oversee quality checks before any RCN consignments are shipped out of the country.

iv. **Strengthening Processing and Value Addition:** PPPs would be pursued to establish and upgrade modern processing facilities, providing financial incentives and technical support for local processors and value addition enterprises.

v. **Increase Youth involvement in the Cashew Industry**: Under the Farm Banks initiative, lands will be developed to increase youth access to land for cashew cultivation. This will be complemented by training programmes such as digital farming tools, mobile apps, and mechanized systems that equip youth with the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in the sector. Access to production inputs will also be facilitated under this intervention.

vi. **Management of Pest and Diseases:** TCDA in collaboration with MoFA will: (a) Map out the affected areas and determine the incidence and severity level of CPMD; (b) Sensitize farmers on measures to contain the spread of the disease; (c) Support Research Institutions to develop cashew clones or varieties that are resistant/tolerant to the disease. (d) Will work with the National Insurance Commission and its members to expand the scope of agricultural insurance schemes to help farmers mitigate the financial risks associated with pest and disease outbreaks.

vii. **Institute a Traceability System for RCN:** TCDA has established a digital framework for a traceable supply chain and sustainable financing mechanisms, aiming to enhance the operational capacity of TCDA and the value chain actors in the cashew sector. Through the TCDA framework, MoFA and other agencies will develop a comprehensive data system for all value chain actors, particularly producers, with farmers' data linked to the polygons of their farms. TCDA in collaboration with relevant institutions, will also:

   a. Designate a route for transiting RCN from neighbouring countries, exported through Ghana's port.
   b. Install weighing bridges at the entry points (e.g., Hamile, Bondoukou-Sampa entry point, Bonao-Charcher entry point, etc.) and the weights of transit RCNs transmitted to TCDA and Customs ahead of the arrival of the goods to reduce the incidence of adulteration.

viii. **Regulation of Unapproved Agrochemicals:** TCDA will strengthen its collaboration with MoFA and the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to establish a system to ensure that all agrochemicals used on tree crops, particularly cashew, are tested and recommended.

Table 23: Production Targets for Cashew from 2025-2028

Year	Area (Ha)	Yield (Mt/Ha)	Production (Mt)	National Demand for value addition (Mt)	Total Consumption [20]	Surplus/ Deficit (Mt)	Production Target (Mt)
2024 *(Baseline)	272,432	0.95	252,932	65,000	65,000	197,932	252,932
2025	285,000	1.2	342,000	100,000	100,000	242,000	342,000
2026	295,000	1.5	442,500	200,000	200,000	242,500	442,500
2027	300,000	1.8	540,000	250,000	250,000	290,000	540,000
2028	300,000	2.0	600,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	600,000

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional

Coconut Value Chain

The Coconut Value Chain in Ghana involves multiple interconnected actors, from production through processing to end users including individuals, businesses, and export markets that utilize fresh or dried nuts and coconut oil.

Interventions

i. **Enhancing Access to Improved Planting Material** – To boost productivity, MoFA through TCDA will increase the availability of high-quality coconut seedlings. This can be achieved by supporting seed gardens and certified nurseries through public-private partnerships (PPPs). Subsidies for smallholder farmers and awareness campaigns on improved varieties will help drive adoption.

ii. **Enhancing Processing Capacity** – Modernizing the sector requires expanding processing facilities in key coconut-growing regions. Under the FGP, MoFA will facilitate Public-private partnerships to support private sector operators to upgrade existing and establish new processing facilities, while providing training and incentives to encourage local entrepreneurs. Investing in research for new coconut products and strengthening market linkages will improve competitiveness.

iii. **Improving Access to Credit** – Farmers and processors need better financing options, including dedicated agricultural loan schemes, crop insurance, and credit guarantees. The FGP will strengthen financial literacy and promote group-based lending through cooperatives and catalogue risk mitigants to provide assurances to financial institutions.

iv. **Enhancing the Knowledge Gap in Good Agronomic Practices (GAPs)** – the programme will strengthen extension services with well-trained advisors and digital tools (like mobile apps and radio). Hands-on training through Farmer Field Schools and educational materials in local languages will be pursued to enhance learning.

[20] Total Consumption is quantity exported

v. **Strengthening Linkages Between Actors** – Better coordination among farmers, processors, and traders is crucial. Multi-stakeholder platforms, industry associations, and a strong Coconut Federation led by the TCDA will be supported by FGP Secretariat to foster collaboration.

vi. **Improving Farm Productivity** – The FGP, through TCDA, will support the rehabilitation of farms with better varieties, ensuring access to quality inputs, and training farmers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs). The programme will also strengthen pest control and introduce small-scale irrigation in dry areas to further sustain production. Under the FGP, we aim to increase coconut yield from the current 6.7MT/ha to 9.0MT/ha by 2028 (see table 18).

vii. **Establishing a Digital Database** – A national mapping exercise and a centralized digital database will be established to improve planning and decision making. TCDA's digital framework will register value chain actors, ensuring a more efficient and traceable supply chain.

Table 24:Production targets for Coconut from 2025-2028

Year	Area (Ha)	Yield (Mt/Ha)	Production (Mt) **	National Demand for value addition (MT)	Total Consumption	Surplus/ Deficit (Mt)	Production Target (Mt)
2024 (Baseline)	75,000	6.7	504,000	6,000	6,000	498,000	504,000
2025	78,000	7.7	604,000	6,850	6,850	597,150	604,000
2026	80,400	7.9	650,000	6,950	6,950	643,050	650,000
2027	95,200	8.5	700,000	7,150	7,150	692,850	700,000
2028	100,700	9.0	700,500	7,200	7,200	693,300	700,500

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional ***Note: Production figures is total nut (Fresh &Dry) harvested*

Oil Palm Value Chain

The oil palm industry is a significant component of Ghana's agriculture, primarily driven by smallholder farmers. It supports rural livelihoods and ranks among Africa's top producers. Although productivity has improved significantly on large-scale plantations, this has not been realised to its full effect on smallholder farms and remains low.

Interventions

i. **Enhancing Farm Productivity:** This intervention will focus on providing farmers with superior planting materials to replace ageing, low-yield plantations with high-quality seedlings to significantly boost per-hectare output and revitalise underperforming farms to boost per-hectare output and revitalize underperforming farms significantly. This could be achieved by collaborating with large plantation entities that have invested in excellent nursery facilities and have high-quality, high-yielding Tenara variants available. Under the FGP, we aim to increase oil palm yield from the current 6.0MT/ha to 10.0MT/ha by 2028 (see table 19).

ii. **Revolutionizing Farmer Education:** The programme will transform extension services through hands-on, community-based training on sustainable best practices in production-related activities, oil extraction, and planting material selection, while leveraging digital tools (e-extension) to enhance farming practices and attract youth to the sector.

iii. **Strategic Land Expansion:** Under the agricultural land bank initiative, TCDA will develop additional 50,000 hectares of land with optimal growth requirements[21] and a mandatory 25% allocated to smallholder outgrowers, ensuring inclusive growth.

iv. **Modernizing Processing Capacities for CPO and Palm Kernel Oil:** Artisanal mills require urgent upgrades to their equipment. The programme will improve technology and practices to elevate oil extraction rates from the current 12% to a more competitive 18%. This is expected to drastically increase production while reducing free fatty acids (FFAs), particularly for consumers.

v. **Strengthening Regulatory Frameworks:** Protecting our domestic industry demands strict enforcement of quality standards. Under the FGP, TCDA will lead coordinated efforts with regulatory bodies to prevent the market flooding of substandard imported CPO and refined derivatives that undermine local producers.

vi. **Building Sustainability Competence:** As international markets impose stricter environmental requirements, the programme will equip all value chain actors with comprehensive knowledge of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), the RSPO standards, and relevant national standards for local consumption. This will be achieved through structured training programmes and certification support to ensure sustainable production practices across both export and domestic markets.

vii. **Promoting Inclusive Participation:** The FGP will aggressively target and empower women through farm ownership opportunities and processing cooperatives, while creating youth-oriented agribusiness ventures, such as farm management services, that combine input supply with extension support.

viii. **Developing Financial Solutions:** The Government in collaboration with financial institutions and development organizations will build upon successful financing models and arrangements and create tailored financial products for each segment of the value chain in addressing the funding gap.

ix. **Promoting Market Access and Demand for Oil Palm Products:** To enhance the profitability and sustainability of oil palm production, structured markets for Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB) trading will be established through collaboration with all actors along the oil palm value chain, facilitated by TCDA and other relevant institutions.

Table 25: Production Targets for Oil Palm from 2025-2028

Year	Area (Ha)	Yield (Mt/Ha)	Production (Mt) FFB	National Demand for value addition (Mt)	Total Consumption	Surplus/Deficit (Mt)	Production Target (Mt) CPO
2024 *(Baseline)	350,000	6	2,100,000	300,000	450,000	150,000	300,000
2025	355,000	7	2,485,000	310,000	450,000	-140,000	365,000

[21] Optimal growth requirements include rainfall, temperature, sunshine levels as well as soil requirements

2026	375,000	8	3,000,000	365,000	475,000	-100,000	448,000
2027	395,000	9	3,5550,000	448,000	500,000	-52,000	504,000
2028	400,000	10	4,000,000	504,000	520,000	-16,000	600,000

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional

Shea Value Chain

The shea industry is a vital and growing sector within Ghana's agricultural economy, particularly benefiting communities in the northern regions. Renowned for its high-quality shea nuts and butter, Ghana is one of the world's leading producers and exporters. The industry plays a crucial role in rural development and women's empowerment, providing livelihoods for an estimated 470,000 women engaged in the collection, processing, and trade of shea products.

Interventions

i. Strategic areas for the Shea value chain includes: (i) Sustainability: Replanting, protecting shea parklands, climate-smart agriculture; (ii) Value Addition: Boost local processing capacity to export butter, not just nuts; (iii) Gender Inclusion: Support women-led shea cooperatives with training and tools; (iv) Market Expansion: Access EU, US, and Asian cosmetic and food sectors; (v) Policy Support: Incentives for exporters, processors, and farmers. The FGP targets an annual 10% growth in Shea production over the programme period (see table 20) through the following intervention areas:

ii. **Improved Infrastructure (Roads, Warehousing, Processing Facilities):** Areas where sheanut trees are, will be mapped to guide in constructing and rehabilitating of rural roads to improve access to shea nut collection areas and the development of storage and warehousing facilities with proper ventilation and pest control. There will also be support for the establishment of modern shea processing centres (e.g., with solar dryers, crushers, and boilers).

iii. **Boosting Productivity and Quality of Shea Nuts:** Training programmes for women collectors and farmers on best practices in harvesting and post-harvest handling will be organised. Improved tools and equipment (e.g., nut crackers, solar dryers) will also be distributed to women farmers. The government will promote sustainable parkland management and tree planting.

iv. **Create Access to Finance:** Microfinance and cooperative funding schemes tailored for women and smallholder processors will be created under the programme. Capacity building in financial literacy and business planning will be organised, and the Government will make available subsidised equipment, loans and revolving funds to farmers.

v. **Improved Market Access and Linkages:** The government will facilitate market linkages through trade fairs and buyer-seller forums for farmers. There will also be the creation of digital platforms for marketing and sales. The programme will also provide certification and branding support (e.g., organic, Fairtrade).

vi. **Policy and Institutional Support:** FGP will work through the TCDA to develop new groupings and strengthening existing shea cooperatives and associations.

vii. **Mitigate Environmental and Climate Challenges:** Climate-smart agriculture training will be organized for value chain actors. Additionally, reforestation and conservation projects targeting shea landscapes will be enhanced. FGP will establish monitoring systems for climate impacts and adaptive planning.

Table 26: Production Targets for Shea from 2024-2030

Year	Estimated Production (Mt)	Growth Target (%)	Key Initiatives
2025	170,000	-	Baseline year investment in processing centres and farmer training
2026	187,000	10%	Expand aggregation centers, promote sustainable collection
2027	205,700	10%	Introduction of incentives, improved quality standards
2028	226,270	10%	Enhance market linkages, support women cooperatives
2029	248,897	10%	Scale up exports, attract private investments
2030	273,786.7	10%	Review and consolidate progress, integrate digital traceability

Source: MoFA, 2025

Mango Value Chain

Mango is one of the key produce of Ghana's fruit sector, alongside pineapple, citrus and banana. The industry is currently blighted with poor and erratic harvests, pests, and diseases, and has very low yields. However, current mango output per annum is estimated to be 98,500 Mt. Mangoes are produced in three main areas: the southern belt (Eastern, Greater Accra and Volta Regions, where the export-oriented mango cultivation commenced), the middle belt (Bono East, Bono and Ashanti Regions) and the northern belt (Northern, Upper East and Upper West Regions, where commercial orchards have taken root since the early 2000). While the subsector holds considerable economic potential, it faces various challenges that hinder its full development.

Interventions

i. **Enhance Access to Improved Planting Material**: Addressing this challenge through coordinated efforts through TCDA in collaboration with research institutions, DPs, and private actors is crucial for driving growth, resilience, and export potential. Key interventions include supporting the establishment and expansion of mango seed and scion banks, as well as certified nurseries, nationwide. Seed systems will also be strengthened by linking research institutions with commercial producers. To improve accessibility for smallholder farmers, seedling subsidies and support from TCDA and other relevant agencies will be provided. Extension services and awareness campaigns will also be undertaken.

ii. **Enhance Processing Capacity**: Promoting value addition in the mango subsector requires strategic interventions to support the expansion and modernization of processing capacity. Local entrepreneurship will be incentivized through targeted training and grant support to upgrade small-scale processing operations. Investment in research and innovation will be prioritized to develop new mango products and appropriate, cost-effective processing technologies. Additionally, the supply chain of mangoes for processing must be strengthened and enhanced to ensure consistency in supply.

iii. **Improve Distribution and Commercialization for Enhanced Mango Competitiveness**: Key interventions include supporting the compliance of stringent sanitary and phytosanitary requirements in destination markets and establishing a strong entity, with the support of TCDA, to represent the interests of exporters in those markets.

iv. **Enhance Logistics for the Mango Sector**: Under the programmes, TCDA will facilitate necessary investments in improving Ghanaian infrastructure, such as feeder roads connecting production areas to markets, and enhancing access to and reliability of electricity.

v. **Improve Mango Production and Post-Harvest Practices**: In collaboration with research institutions and Academia, this intervention will focus on building the capacity of value chain actors to enhance mango productivity through the adoption of improved varieties, best agronomic practices, and effective pest and disease management. It will also strengthen post-harvest handling, including proper harvesting, sorting, storage, and packaging techniques, to reduce losses and improve market quality.

vi. **Improve Access to Credit:** Enhancing access to finance in the mango sector will require a multifaceted approach involving several key actions. The programme will (i) promote agricultural financing schemes through collaboration with DPs, MDAs, and financial institutions to establish dedicated funding mechanisms tailored to the needs of mango value chain actors (ii) strengthening the capacity of farmers and processors through financial literacy training and business development services will enhance their credit readiness and ability to manage funds effectively (iii) de-risk agricultural lending through tools such as crop insurance and credit guarantee schemes. (iv) facilitate group-based lending through the formation and capacity-building of Farmer-Based Organizations (FBOs) and cooperatives

vii. **Promote Good Agronomic Practices (GAPs):** Effective extension and outreach systems will be strengthened to enhance knowledge and adoption of GAPs in the mango subsector, through: (i) increasing the number of AEAs and increasing their training through TCDA, private extension providers and community-based extension agent models to address the deficit. (ii) establishing Farmer Field Schools and tree crop development centers to promote hands-on training and peer learning at the community level (iii) developing and disseminating Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials, including brochures, videos, and posters in local languages, to help spread GAP messages in a user-friendly format (iv) using Digital tools such as mobile technology and radio programmes to expand outreach (v) Collaboration with FBOs to organize regular training sessions and mentorship programmes to ensure sustained capacity building at the grassroots level.

viii. **Strengthen Linkages Between Value Chain Actors:** Establishing and strengthening multi-stakeholder platforms is necessary to facilitate regular engagement among stakeholders, including forums, business-to-business meetings, and activities of mango industry associations. Such platforms provide opportunities for dialogue, knowledge sharing, and joint problem-solving. Building the capacity of the National Mango Farmers Association is the key to supporting coordination and promoting linkages of all actors, which will be achieved by TCDA through collaboration with the Ministry and DPs. Modern tools will be harnessed through the development of digital value chain solutions, leveraging

ICT platforms for sharing market information, product traceability, and coordination among stakeholders.

ix. **Improve Farm Productivity**: This will be achieved through a combination of actions, including farm rehabilitation with improved varieties and better access to quality inputs. Also, effective pest and disease management, along with support for small-scale irrigation, especially in drought-prone areas, will be pursued to boost and sustain yields. The FGP targets a yield increase from 12MT/ha at baseline in Mango production to 17MT/ha over the programme period (see table 21).

Table 27:Production targets for Mango from 2024-2028

Year	Area (Ha)	Yield (Mt/Ha)	Production (Mt)	National Demand for Value Addition	Total Consumption	Surplus/Deficit (Mt)	Production Target (Mt)	Self-sufficiency (%)
2024 *(Baseline)	90,000	12	1,080,000	26,000	26,000	1,054,000	900,000	97.6
2025	100,000	14	1,400,000	70,000	70,000	1,330,000	100,000	95
2026	110,000	15	1,650,000	82,500	82,500	1,567,500	1,300,000	95
2027	115,000	16	1,840,000	92,000	92,000	1,748,000	1,500,000	95
2028	120,000	17	2,040,000	102,000	102,000	1,938,000	1,800,000	95

Source: MoFA, 2025 * Provisional

5.2.8 Sub-Programme 7: Agro-Production Enclaves and Irrigation Development

This sub-programme consists of two components, namely, Agro-Production Enclaves and Irrigation for Wealth Creation.

5.2.8.1. Component 1: Agro-Production Enclaves

The Agro-Production Enclave (AgPE) is a strategic initiative under the Feed Ghana Programme, designed to accelerate agricultural transformation and enhance food security in Ghana. It is described as a large, contiguous tract of arable land of at least 300 ha, designed and developed as an integrated area within which agro-industrial zones and farmers' service centres are located. The enclave is a mixed-use economic space that seeks to create a viable ecosystem with critical infrastructure and services to support large-scale commercial production and value chain integration for both crop and livestock.

Each enclave will be equipped with irrigation systems, FSCs, agro-processing, silos, warehousing facilities, rural roads and power supply creating an enabling environment for private sector investment. The AgPEs will be allocated to Commercial/Anchor farmers to work with smallholder farmers, including women and youth, adopting "Outgrower and Ingrower" production systems. This will ensure increased innovative production such as greenhouses and market access for smallholder farmers, with special focus on women and youth by facilitating access to modern facilities, training, and market opportunities. The initiative will build on existing Agro-Industrial Zones established to support medium- to large-scale farming.

Collectively, these interventions aim to modernize Ghana's agricultural landscape, drive agro-industrialization, and foster sustainable livelihoods across the sector. A total of 100,000 ha of land will be developed within the four years with 25,000 ha annually.

The creation of Agro-Production Enclaves represents a strategic and transformative response to longstanding structural inefficiencies in Ghana's agricultural sector. This initiative is designed to establish coordinated, investment-ready agricultural zones that can catalyze productivity, attract private sector participation, and stimulate rural economic development. One of the primary challenges it addresses is the highly fragmented nature of smallholder farming systems, which has constrained economies of scale, made mechanization difficult, and limited farmers' access to consistent markets. By consolidating production within defined enclaves, farmers can pool resources, benefit from shared services, and operate more efficiently.

In addition, the enclaves aim to address the limited access to irrigation, quality inputs, and modern agricultural technologies, which have suppressed yields and reduced resilience to climate variability. Within these zones, infrastructure for irrigation and mechanized services will be developed and managed more sustainably.

Poor road networks and market access have historically isolated rural farming communities, increasing the cost of transport and reducing farmgate prices. Agro-Production Enclaves provide an opportunity to integrate road improvements and logistics infrastructure that directly link farms to markets, processors, and urban centres.

Another pressing issue is the inadequate post-harvest and storage facilities, which results in significant crop losses and reduced incomes for farmers. The enclave model enables the co-location of aggregation centres and cold storage facilities, enhancing the efficiency of the supply chain and maintaining the quality of produce.

Weak linkages between production and agro-processing are also a challenge and hinders value addition. The enclave concept promotes spatial proximity between producers and processors, thereby enhancing coordination, reducing transaction costs, and facilitating the industrialisation of the agricultural sector.

Finally, youth unemployment remains high especially in rural areas. Agro-Production Enclaves offers a viable pathway for inclusive job creation by modernizing agriculture and making it more attractive to the youth through organized value chains, skills development, and enterprise support.

Target Beneficiaries

The AgPEs are expected to benefit a broad spectrum of actors within the agricultural value chain, including anchor farmers and commercial producers, smallholder farmers, youth and women entrepreneurs, input suppliers and machinery operators, aggregators, processors, marketers, persons living with disabilities (PLWDs), private investors, and agribusiness firms. The programme prioritizes inclusivity by ensuring access to land, inputs, and markets for marginalized groups and access to pumps for smallholder farmers.

5.2.8.2. Component 2: Irrigation for Wealth Creation

The Irrigation for Wealth Creation (IWC) is one of the initiatives under the Feed Ghana Programme, focusing on expanding irrigation access across Ghana. The project seeks to expand irrigation coverage to support consistent agricultural production throughout the year, enhance the production of raw materials to support the government's 24-hour Economic Policy, and generate job opportunities, particularly for the youth.

Under this component, existing irrigation schemes will be rehabilitated and expanded (ref to table 6), while new ones will be developed. Some of these schemes will be integral to the AgPE. The IWC will be implemented in phases across the country with a total of 11,493 ha developed. The initial project sites are shown in **Error! Reference source not found.**4.

5.2.9 Sub-Programme 8: Innovative Agricultural Financing

Agriculture remains the backbone of Ghana's economy, contributing 22% of GDP and employing 38.3% of the workforce (GLSS 7). According to the Bank of Ghana's January 2025 Monetary Report, credit to primary agriculture (production) accounted for only 4.7% of total credit in 2024, up slightly from 3.9% in 2023. These figures exclude lending to large-scale processors, manufacturers, and related service providers, even though many of them provide financing to smallholder farmers integrated into their supply chains. This limited financing of the sector remains a significant barrier to investment, productivity, and overall growth in Ghana's agricultural sector and reduces farmers' ability to adopt modern technologies and manage risks.

Another agricultural financing gap is low insurance penetration, with less than 5% of Ghanaian farmers currently covered by any form of insurance protection (Ghana Insurers Association, 2024). This exposes the majority of producers to shocks such as climate change, pest outbreaks, and market volatility that can wipe out entire seasons' investments. Smallholder farmers, who constitute 80% of agricultural producers, face the greatest vulnerabilities, with women farmers, representing 52% of the agricultural labour force, being particularly disadvantaged (IFAD, 2023).

In sub-Saharan Africa, farmers face prohibitive interest rates and collateral requirements that exclude most small-scale operators, with only 15% of smallholders reported to have access to credit. Women farmers receive 10% of agricultural loans, further limiting their productivity and resilience (IFAD, 2023). The combination of limited financing and inadequate risk management tools creates a vicious cycle, that keeps farmers trapped in subsistence-level production and discourages investment.

Several factors contribute to the limited agricultural lending in Ghana. The main issues are the low share of total credit allocated to agriculture and high risk associated with agricultural lending due to weather variability, pests, diseases, low yields, impacting revenue and jeopardizing repayments.

The Feed Ghana Programme (FGP) seeks to address these interconnected challenges through an integrated financial inclusion strategy that combines concessional credit, risk-sharing mechanisms, and innovative insurance products. By promoting tailored financial solutions that address both access to capital and risk mitigation, the programme will transform Ghana's agricultural sector into a more productive, resilient, sustainable and commercially viable engine of economic growth.

Interventions

The Feed Ghana Programme (FGP) recognizes that transformative agricultural growth cannot be achieved without addressing these systemic financing gaps. Innovative financial solutions are crucial for de-risking lending, enhancing credit accessibility, and unlocking crucial investments across the agricultural value chain. Interventions to address financing gaps include:

i. **Concessional and Blended Financing**: Government will facilitate Developmental Financial Institutions (DFIs) and projects such as Ghana Agricultural Risk Management (GhARM) to develop blended and concessional financing facilities to support farmers and other value chain actors. FGP will also collaborate with the Exim Bank to provide low-interest loans to farmers, cooperatives, FBOs and agribusinesses, prioritizing import substitution and export-oriented and value-added projects. Women and youth will be targeted to ensure gender balance.

ii. **Mitigating Lending Risks:** The Ghana Incentive-Based Risk-Sharing Systems for Agricultural Lending (GIRSAL) has been designed to provide credit risk guarantees to financial institutions lending to agriculture. It also provides technical support to lending institutions to enhance their knowledge and understanding of the agricultural sector and strengthen their capacity to assess and structure agribusiness loans to benefit agribusinesses. Since 2019, GIRSAL has guaranteed agricultural loans totalling 1.48 billion Ghana Cedis. FGP will collaborate with GIRSAL to expand guaranteed funds and build capacity of Financial Institutions to lend more to agriculture.

iii. **Committing Commercial Banks to lend to Agriculture:** The Feed Ghana programme (FGP) will advocate for commercial banks to invest at least 8% of deposits to facilitate agricultural initiatives.

iv. **Ghana Commodity Exchange (GCX):** The Ghana Commodity Exchange (GCX) will be supported with warehouse and other logistics, as well as funding, to enhance trading in selected commodities.

v. **Agricultural Insurance:** Agricultural insurance premiums should be subsidized by the government, similar to practices in other countries, to reduce the financial burden on farmers and promote wider adoption. The FGP will collaborate with the National Insurance Commission, which is developing a fund to ensure that government support includes both premium subsidies for farmers and incentives for insurance firms. The government will explore opportunities of bundling insurance with other services to promote adoption of products and lending by banks leveraging on on-going initiatives such as the GhARM project.

Through collaboration with Bank of Ghana, Financial Institutions, National Insurance Commission, and Insurance firms; agricultural insurance coverage is targeted to expand from 5% to 10% of Ghana's farming population by 2028.

vi. **Interest Rate Subsidy:** The interest rate subsidy reduces the cost of borrowing, which is attractive to farmers and also mitigates the risk of default, making it more attractive to banks. This intervention aims to support farmers who repay their loans on schedule. GIRSAL will be resourced to continue with the interest rate subsidy programme.

vii. **Input Credit System:** Under the FGP, agricultural inputs and services will be provided to farmers on a credit basis. This is aimed at easing the challenges farmers face in accessing credit.

5.2.9.1. Agricultural Lending Targets from 2025-2028

At the core of the sub-programme's financial targets is the goal to significantly increase investment in agriculture.

The programme seeks to reach a target of 10% in total bank credit to the agricultural sector in 2028, up from 3.5% in 2024 (table 22). This will be achieved by the interventions outlined above.

Table 28:Agricultural Lending Targets Matrix (2025-2028)

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline (2024)	2025	2026	2027	2028
Percentage of Farmers with Insurance Coverage	5%	8%	10%	13%	15%
Percentage of Total Bank credit to Agriculture	3.5%	5%	6.5%	8%	10%
Loans Disbursed Under GIRSAL Guarantees (GHS million)	288.5	412.1	535.8	659.4	824.3

5.2.10 Sub-Programme 9: Institutional Development and Management Research

Effective institutional capacity is the backbone of sustainable agricultural development. The transformation of Ghana's agriculture sector hinges on the functionality, responsiveness, and resilience of key public institutions tasked with delivering critical services. Management research is critical in understanding the dynamics that shape effective institutions and the practices that lead to efficient and accountable management. Under the FGP, institutional development and management research is key to the development of agri-food systems. This sub-programme has two (2) components.

5.2.10.1. Component 1: Institutional Development and Regulatory Framework

The implementation of the FGP requires specific actions by different agencies and actors in the agricultural sector. The capacity of these actors to perform their assigned roles and responsibilities is essential for the full realization of the goal of the FGP. The ministry and the decentralised department of agriculture have low staff numbers and limited requisite skills to deliver services effectively. Planned actions will be undertaken under the FGP to enhance the capacity of all actors relevant to the implementation of the programme based on evidence from the needs assessment conducted.

MoFA performs regulatory functions through its agencies such as Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate (PPRSD), Veterinary Services Directorate (VSD), Animal Production Directorate (APD), Tree Crops Development Authority (TCDA), Directorate of Crop Services (DCS) and Ghana Irrigation Development Authority (GIDA). Strengthening structures in these regulatory agencies is imperative for the success of the Feed Ghana Programme. In this regard, the FGP outlines specific actions and interventions to be undertaken.

Interventions

i. **Staff Recruitment**: The Ministry will recruit 1,000 personnel to fill existing vacancies in the MoFA agencies and replace retiring personnel over the programme period. Attention will be given to qualified female applicants.

ii. **Strengthening Capacity of MoFA and other Actors**: Under the FGP, capacity development of actors in various commodity value chains will be vigorously pursued to increase efficiency, productivity, and ultimately, production, towards achieving the expected outputs and outcomes. This will target service providers, producers, processors, and technical staff. The capacity development will be undertaken through the engagement of requisite subject matter experts and specialists. The Ministry will provide training opportunities for staff to upgrade their skills on periodic basis through both academic and on-the-job training programmes. This approach will ensure that staff are equipped with the necessary knowledge and expertise to meet the evolving demands of their roles in the FGP.

iii. **Strengthening Specialised MoFA Institutions:** Under the programme, GIDA, VSD, DAES, APD, NAFCO, and GLDB will be restructured and retooled to meet the demands of a modern, inclusive, and market-oriented agricultural system.

a. **Strengthening the Ghana Irrigation Development Authority (GIDA)** The restructuring of GIDA is critical to reposition it as a lead agency for driving climate-resilient and commercial irrigation systems in Ghana. This will involve streamlining its governance structure, upgrading technical capacity, and modernizing infrastructure to respond to current and future irrigation demands. Strengthening GIDA will enhance its ability to design, implement, and manage irrigation schemes that are scalable, sustainable, and aligned with regional agro-ecological priorities.

b. **Strengthen and Resource Institutions Responsible for Grains Warehousing and Promote Private Participation:** To ensure efficient post-harvest management and reduce losses, institutions overseeing grain warehousing will be restructured and adequately resourced to operate with modern systems and standards. These reforms will facilitate the integration of private sector participation through public-private partnerships (PPPs), thereby increasing investment in grain storage infrastructure. The improved warehousing system will support structured markets, stabilize prices, and ensure food availability throughout the year.

c. **Strengthening Veterinary Services Directorate (VSD):** The Veterinary Services Directorate will be upgraded to an Authority, providing it with the autonomy, mandate, resources required to enforce veterinary regulations and deliver high-quality animal health services nationwide. This transition will allow for better coordination of disease surveillance, livestock vaccination, and veterinary public health interventions. As an authority, VSD will be better positioned to engage regional and global partners in addressing zoonotic and transboundary animal diseases and improving Ghana’s livestock and poultry sector competitiveness.

d. **Strengthening the Directorate of Agricultural Extension Services (DAES):** The FGP seeks to improve agricultural extension services to farmers by engaging private extension service providers and National Service Personnel to augment the relatively low AEA to farmer ratio. To validate and recognize these actors in the extension delivery space and ensure improved quality of service as well as the professional conduct by personnel, DAES will be strengthened to enact the Agricultural Extension Services Act aimed at regulating extension service delivery and recognizing private service players.

5.2.10.2. Component 2: Management Research and Development

The sub-programme deploys management research and development approaches in addressing organizational, managerial and leadership challenges in the food and agriculture systems of Ghana. The main objective is to improve efficiency and exploit opportunities in the food and agriculture systems. The programme seeks to address a gap in research and development of the value chains. It will apply the food systems approach, analysing from production to waste management, anchored on knowledge creation and problem solving. This will inform decision making and guide investment in the sector.

Interventions

i. **Research and analysis of the food systems:** This will focus on analysing organisational leaders and managers performance in the three main jobs areas:
   - Managing FAS Organizations;
   - Managing FAS Managers & Leaders; and
   - Managing FAS workforce and operations effectively and efficiently.

   Thus, the Sub-Programme will deal with how to organize, lead and manage the whole FAS of Ghana, drawing on Management Research & Development knowledge creation and problem solving in order to attract investments into the FAS of Ghana. (i.e. food & agriculture production systems; processing systems; marketing & distribution systems; consumption systems; and waste management systems of Ghana).

   It will also address the inefficiencies in a resource constraint and complex organisational environment to achieve equitable and sustained improvements across FAS. This will involve an effective and efficient management of limited FAS resources drawing on systems thinking & practices, complex adaptive systems based organizational leadership & and management.

ii. **Capacity Building and Dissemination of Research Results:** This intervention focuses on building the capacity of organisations, managers, workforce drawing on the results of the management research from intervention one (1). It also focuses on dissemination and promotion of research outcomes to all stakeholders especially policy makers.

iii. **Review, Monitoring and Evaluation:** This intervention will monitor and evaluate decisions and investments emanating from the research work. It will regularly review the extent of implementation of recommendations of the research to further inform decision making. The review will specifically focus the five functions of the FAS:
   - Production;
   - Processing;
   - Distribution and Marketing;
   - Consumption; and
   - Waste Management.

Implementation and reporting of this initiative will follow the existing structure at the national, regional and district level.

5.3. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

This Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as indicated in Table 29, evaluates the environmental, social, and economic implications of the programmes, sub-programmes, investment areas, and broad activities outlined in this SMTDP. It assesses their long-term sustainability and alignment with national strategic goals, while recommending measures to avoid, minimise, or manage potential negative impacts and to maximise positive outcomes. The activities and investment areas identified offer significant opportunities to strengthen food security and improve livelihoods; however, they also present risks to land, water resources, biodiversity, and human health that require careful management. In this regard, the SEA focuses on interventions related to Crops and Livestock Development, Mechanisation and Irrigation, Post-Harvest Management, Agro-Production Enclaves, and the Sustainable Management of Land and the Environment. The implementation of this SEA is guided by a number of sector policy and regulatory frameworks, including:

a. Plant and Fertiliser Act, 2010 (Act 803) – which provides the legal framework for the regulation of fertilisers, seeds, and related inputs (noted in the Plan for review and strengthening).

b. Ghana Biosafety Act, 2011 (Act 831) – which governs the safe development, transfer, handling, and use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) to protect human health and the environment.

c. Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Commitments – which ensure that agricultural trade and production meet international standards for food safety, plant health, and animal health.

d. National Land and Irrigation Management Laws – which regulate land tenure, land use, and the sustainable development and management of irrigation systems.

5.3.1. Key Environmental & Social Issues

Below are the principal issues identified for the programme investment areas and broad activities

a. **Land use change, loss of habitat and biodiversity:** Large contiguous agro-production zones, farm re-organisation and development of enclaves/Farm Banks may convert natural habitats, fragment corridors, and reduce biodiversity if sited without safeguards. (Relevant: Agro-Production Enclaves; Farm Banks; mechanised land clearing).

b. **Soil health and erosion:** Mechanised land clearing, heavy machinery, and large-scale irrigation/land development risk topsoil loss, compaction and salinisation if poor practices are used.

c. **Water resources (quantity & quality):** Irrigation over hundreds of thousands of hectares may increase water demand (surface/groundwater), change flows, and create risks of over-abstraction, reduced downstream flows, and water quality impacts from agrochemical runoff. Micro-irrigation and solar pumps reduce some risks but do not eliminate cumulative pressure.

d. **Agrochemical (pesticide, fertiliser) impacts and human health:** Planned distribution of large volumes of pesticides and fertilisers increases risk of improper storage, handling, misuse and pollution (surface/groundwater contamination, residues, occupational health impacts). The programme mentions training and safe use promotion positive but needs SEA-level safeguards.

e. **Waste, post-harvest and cold-chain environmental footprint:** Construction and operation of silos, cold storage and packing houses increases energy demand, waste generation, and potential chemical/biological contamination if poorly managed. Cold storage also increases greenhouse gas (GHG) footprint unless low-carbon refrigeration solutions are used.

f. **Invasive species, pests and disease risks:** Increased movement of seed, livestock and feed across regions elevates risks of spread of pests/pathogens (plant and animal). The FGP includes rapid response, SPS strengthening and vaccine scale-up, which should be integrated.

g. **Social impacts: livelihoods, land tenure, displacement and equity:** Reorganisation of farms, creation of enclaves, and farm consolidation could affect land tenure, smallholders' access and equitable benefit sharing. There are opportunities for incomes/jobs but also risks of exclusion of women, youth, and smallholders if safeguards are absent. The programme emphasises out-grower and inclusion measures but needs binding safeguards.

h. **Climate change vulnerability & GHG balance:** Irrigation expansion, mechanisation and cold chains can increase emissions; however, climate-smart practices, conservation agriculture, and solar irrigation offer mitigation pathways highlighted in the plan.

Table 29: Strategic Assessment of Key Investment Areas

S/N	Interventions Area	Impact		Mitigation
		Positive	Negative	
1	**Irrigation & water management development of irrigation infrastructure)**	• Year-round production, • higher yields, • resilience to drought, • job creation	• Over-abstraction of surface/groundwater, • reduced downstream flows, • salinisation, • waterborne disease risk, • habitat loss from reservoir/dam construction.	• basin-scale water allocation studies; • environmental flow protections; • groundwater monitoring; • siting to avoid wetlands/critical habitats; • promote water-efficient tech (drip, solar pumps);
2	**Mechanisation, land development & Farm Banks**	• efficiency gains, • lower drudgery, • scalable production.	• topsoil loss, • compaction, • loss of trees and agroforestry, • erosion, • social displacement.	• promote conservation agriculture, • limit bulldozing/shallow land clearing, • require soils & landscape E&S plans for Farm Banks, • mandatory rehabilitation/rehab bonds, • tree-cover targets, • social safeguards for tenure/security.
3	**Input Distribution- Agro-chemical & fertiliser**	• yield boosts, • productivity.	• contamination, • health risks, • pesticide resistance, • pollinator losses.	• strict quality control and certification of inputs; • integrated pest management (IPM) roll-out, • training & PPE provision, • secure storage rules, • buffer zones near water bodies, • pesticide usage monitoring, • progressive phase-out of highly hazardous pesticides and promote biocontrols.
4	**Seed, livestock breed distribution & breeding stations**	• improved genetics, • productivity.	• genetic erosion, • disease spread, • biosecurity risks.	• biosafety screening, • quarantine and traceability for planting materials and livestock, • support for local varietal conservation, maintain gene banks, • follow Biosafety Act and animal traceability measures.

5	**Post-harvest infrastructure, silos, packhouses & cold chains**	• reduced losses, • improved food safety, • market access.	• energy use, • waste, • localized pollution if effluents or cleaning chemicals discharged.	• site selection avoiding floodplains & sensitive zones, • energy-efficient refrigeration (encourage low-GWP refrigerants), • waste management plans, • hygiene & spill response, • adopt GS 1042 and SPS standards.
6	**Agro-Production Enclaves & large-scale land development**	• guaranteed raw materials for processors, • economies of scale.	• potential loss of smallholder lands, • biodiversity loss, • social conflicts, • tenure insecurity.	• transparent land allocation and tenure safeguards, • prior and informed consultation (FPIC where applicable), • smallholder inclusion clauses (outgrower schemes with clear benefit sharing), • landscape planning to conserve corridors.
7	**Early warning, SPS, plant & animal health systems (SP 2.5; PPRSD/VSD strengthening)**	• reduced disease/pest risks, • improved trade & food safety.		• invest in labs/diagnostic capacity, • accredited labs, • cross-border surveillance, and • rapid response funds integrated into FGP budgets.

Source: MoFA - DCS SLM Unit , 2025

Table 30: SEA-level Environmental & Social Monitoring Plan

S/N	Issues	Indicator	Frequency	Responsibility
1	Water abstraction & quality	m^3 abstracted per scheme; nitrate/phosphate/pesticide levels at downstream points	Quarterly	GIDA / WUAs
2	Soil health	Topsoil depth, organic carbon, erosion incidents per farm bank	Annual	MoFA SRID / District Agric. Offices
3	Pesticide use & residues	Ltrs pesticide distributed vs. documented safe use training; residue tests on produce	Seasonal	PPRSD / FDA
4	Biodiversity & protected areas	Hectares of habitat converted; species of concern incident reports	Annual	EPA / Forestry Commission / MoFA
5	Social safeguards & land tenure	Number grievances; % of affected smallholders with agreed compensation/benefit clauses	As occurs + Annual	MoFA Social Safeguards Unit / MMDAs
6	Cold chain energy & emissions	kWh / tonne-CO_2e (estimate) for cold storage facilities	Annual	Project implementer / MoFA
7	SPS & disease surveillance	Time to detect/respond; number of outbreaks managed	Continuous	PPRSD / VSD

Source: MoFA - DCS SLM Unit , 2025

5.3.2. Institutional arrangements & capacity building

- **Lead SEA coordination:** MoFA (PPMED, DCS & SRID) with a designated SEA Unit to integrate SEA recommendations into implementation
- **Technical partners:** EPA (screening & EIA oversight), GIDA (irrigation management), PPRSD & VSD (SPS, plant & animal health), Forestry Commission (biodiversity), NADMO (disaster/emergency), MMDAs for local implementation.
- **Capacity building needs:** WUA training, FSC operator environmental management, pesticide handling and PPE training, laboratory accreditation and rapid response capability, EHS training for cold-chain operators.

5.4. Financing Plan

The main sources of funding for the agricultural sector are: GoG (Consolidated Fund), Annual Budget Funding Amount (ABFA), Internally Generated Fund (IGF) and Donor sources. However, when the need arises, Government funds the sector from other sources such as Road Fund and Infrastructure Fund. Table 8 presents the expected revenue sources and the cost of each programme area over the medium-term.

Table 31: Programme Financing

Programme: Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)	Programme Cost ('Million GHS) (A)	Estimated Revenue and Sources of Funding ('Million GHS)				Total ('Million GHS) (B)	Gap ('Million GHS) C = (A - B)
		GoG/ ABFA	IGF	DP	Other		
Crop Development	95,562.95	36,552.83	40.21	13,034.79	0	49,627.82	45,935.13
o/w cereals and legumes	82,795.44	31,669.26	34.84	11,293.30	0	42,997.39	39,798.05
Vegetables	11,317.69	4,329.02	4.76	1,543.73	0	5,877.51	5,440.18
Starchy Crops	1,449.81	554.55	0.61	197.75	0	752.92	696.89
Livestock Development	28,027.56	10,720.54	11.79	3,822.96	0	14,555.29	13,472.27
o/w poultry	27,660.05	10,579.97	11.64	3,772.83	0	14,364.44	13,295.61
Ruminant and Pigs	367.51	140.57	0.15	50.13	0	190.86	176.65
Farmers' Service Centres	42,603.08	16,295.68	17.93	5,811.06	0	22,124.66	20,478.41
Farm Bank Development	29,546.12	11,301.39	12.43	4,030.09	0	15,343.91	14,202.21
Institutional Farming	10,963.25	4,193.44	4.61	1,495.39	0	5,693.44	5,269.81
Feed the Industry	3,264.54	1,248.68	1.37	445.28	0	1,695.34	1,569.19
Infrastructure Development	91,830.72	35,125.25	38.64	12,525.71	0	47,689.60	44,141.12
o/w irrigation for wealth	53,292.79	20,384.49	22.42	7,269.14	0	27,676.05	25,616.74
Agro-production enclave	38,537.93	14,740.76	16.21	5,256.57	0	20,013.54	18,524.38
Operational Cost	409.94	156.80	0.17	55.92	0	212.89	197.05
GRAND TOTAL (GHS)	**302,208.15**	**115,594.62**	**127.15**	**41,221.19**	**0**	**156,942.96**	**145,265.19**

Source: Feed Ghana Programme - MoFA, 2025,

To address the gap in financing the plan, the Ministry will develop bankable projects and sourcing of developmental funds from other sources. It will also continue to engage development partners to expand and upscale ongoing intervention to bridge the funding gap. The Ministry will also continue to prioritise and rationalise its expenditure as part of measures to effectively implement this medium-term plan. Some Investment Areas and/or Broad Activities within the plan will be implemented in a synergistic manner to complement each other and also avoid duplication of efforts. These will help the Ministry to close some of its funding gaps.

5.5. Programme of Action (PoA)

The Programme of Action (Table 9) presents the components of the four programme areas and their respective annual estimated cost of implementation. It also shows institutions responsible for the implementation of the individual components of the programme areas.

Table 32: Programme of Action (PoA) for Programmes 1 to 4

Programme: Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)	Timeframe (‘million GH₵)				Cost Indicative Budget (‘million GH₵)			Programme Status		Implementing Agencies	
	2026	2027	2028	2029	GOG	IGF	Other (DP)	New	Ongoing	Lead	Collaborating
Crop Development	x	x	x	x	76,428.35	77.42	25,099.68		x	CSD, PPRSD, DAES,	All MoFA Directorates
Livestock Development	x	x	x	x	22,415.59	22.71	7,361.46		x	APD, VSD, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates
Farmers' Service Centres	x	x	x	x	34,072.65	34.52	11,189.73	x		AESD, GIPC,	All MoFA Directorates
Farm Bank Development	x	x	x	x	23,630.09	23.94	7,760.31		x	GIDA, DCS, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates, GIPC, FIs, GIRSAL, OVCF, GCX, MoTI
Institutional Farming	x	x	x	x	8,768.08	8.88	2,879.51	x		PPMED, DCS, PPRSD	All MoFA Directorates, YEA, Police, Prisons, NSS,
Feed the Industry	x	x	x	x	2,610.88	2.64	857.43	x		DSC, PPRSD,	All MoFA Directorates MLNR, EPA, M MLGDRD, MMDAs,
Infrastructure Development	x	x	x	x	73,443.42	74.40	24,119.41		x	GIDA, AESD, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates
Agro-production Enclave	x	x	x	x	30,821.46	31.22	10,122.02		x	GIDA,	All MoFA Directorates
Operational Cost	x	x	x	x	327.86	0.33	107.67		x	MoFA	All MoFA Directorates

Source: Feed Ghana Programme - MoFA, 2025,

CHAPTER SIX

Annual Action Plan

6.1. Introduction

This chapter highlights planned annual activities within the medium term 2026 - 2029. It also gives an indication of on-going and new initiatives within the sector that leads to the achievement of the sector policy objectives as outlined in the NMTDP, 2026 - 2029. The Plan is implemented through the annual Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) of the Ministry. The chapter also outlines the lead institutions and collaborators in the implementation of the planned activities. The programmes are harmonised with those in the Programme Based Budget (PBB) of Government.

6.2. Annual Action Plans

The annual action plan for the period 2026 to 2029 are presented in Tables 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Table 33: Annual Action Plan for 2026

Objective:													
Programme: Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)													
Projects/Components	**Location**	**Timeframe (‘million GH₵)**				**Cost Indicative Budget (‘million GH₵)**			**Programme Status**		**Implementing Agencies**	
		Q1	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**	**GOG**	**IGF**	**DP**	**New**	**Ongoing**	**Lead**	**Collaborating**
Crop Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	16,155.70	16.26	5,270.93		x	CSD, PPRSD, DAES,	All MoFA Directorates
Livestock Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	4,738.29	4.77	1,545.91		x	APD, VSD, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates
Farmers’ Service Centres	All Districts	x	x	x	x	7,202.40	7.25	2,349.84	x		AESD, GIPC,	All MoFA Directorates
Farm Bank Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	4,995.01	5.03	1,629.67		x	GIDA, DCS, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates, GIPC, FIs, GIRSAL, OVCF, GCX, MoTI
Institutional Farming	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	1,853.43	1.87	604.70	x		PPMED, DCS, PPRSD	All MoFA Directorates, YEA, Police, Prisons, NSS,
Feed the Industry	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	551.90	0.56	180.06	x		DSC, PPRSD,	All MoFA Directorates MLNR, EPA, M MLGDRD, MMDAs,
Infrastructure Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	15,524.73	15.62	5,065.08		x	GIDA, AESD, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates
Agro-production Enclave	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	6,515.15	6.56	2,125.62		x	GIDA,	All MoFA Directorates
Operational Cost	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	69.30	0.07	22.61		x	MoFA	All MoFA Directorates

Source: MoFA, 2025

Table 34: Annual Action Plan for 2027

Objective:													
Programme: Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)													
Projects/Components	**Location**	**Timeframe ('million GH₵)**				**Cost Indicative Budget ('million GH₵)**			**Programme Status**		**Implementing Agencies**	
		Q1	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**	**GOG**	**IGF**	**DP**	**New**	**Ongoing**	**Lead**	**Collaborating**
Crop Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	18,463.65	18.58	6,023.92		x	CSD, PPRSD, DAES,	All MoFA Directorates
Livestock Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	5,415.19	5.45	1,766.75		x	APD, VSD, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates
Farmers' Service Centres	All Districts	x	x	x	x	8,231.31	8.28	2,685.54	x		AESD, GIPC,	All MoFA Directorates
Farm Bank Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	5,708.59	5.75	1,862.47		x	GIDA, DCS, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates, GIPC, FIs, GIRSAL, OVCF, GCX, MoTI
Institutional Farming	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	2,118.20	2.13	691.08	x		PPMED, DCS, PPRSD	All MoFA Directorates, YEA, Police, Prisons, NSS,
Feed the Industry	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	630.74	0.63	205.78	x		DSC, PPRSD,	All MoFA Directorates MLNR, EPA, M MLGDRD, MMDAs,
Infrastructure Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	17,742.55	17.86	5,788.66		x	GIDA, AESD, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates
Agro-production Enclave	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	7,445.89	7.49	2,429.28		x	GIDA,	All MoFA Directorates
Operational Cost	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	79.21	0.08	25.84		x	MoFA	All MoFA Directorates

Source: MoFA, 2025

Table 35: Annual Action Plan for 2028

Objective:												
Programme: Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)												
Projects/Components	**Location**	**Timeframe (‘million GH₵)**				**Cost Indicative Budget (‘million GH₵)**			**Programme Status**		**Implementing Agencies**	
		Q1	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**	**GOG**	**IGF**	**DP**	**New**	**Ongoing**	**Lead**	**Collaborating**
Crop Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	20,771.61	20.90	6,776.91		x	CSD, PPRSD, DAES,	All MoFA Directorates
Livestock Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	6,092.08	6.13	1,987.59		x	APD, VSD, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates
Farmers' Service Centres	All Districts	x	x	x	x	9,260.23	9.32	3,021.23	x		AESD, GIPC,	All MoFA Directorates
Farm Bank Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	6,422.16	6.46	2,095.28		x	GIDA, DCS, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates, GIPC, FIs, GIRSAL, OVCF, GCX, MoTI
Institutional Farming	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	2,382.98	2.40	777.47	x		PPMED, DCS, PPRSD	All MoFA Directorates, YEA, Police, Prisons, NSS,
Feed the Industry	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	709.58	0.71	231.51	x		DSC, PPRSD,	All MoFA Directorates MLNR, EPA, M MLGDRD, MMDAs,
Infrastructure Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	19,960.37	20.09	6,512.24		x	GIDA, AESD, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates
Agro-production Enclave	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	8,376.62	8.43	2,732.94		x	GIDA,	All MoFA Directorates
Operational Cost	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	89.11	0.09	29.07		x	MoFA	All MoFA Directorates

Source: MoFA, 2025

Table 36: Annual Action Plan for 2029

Objective:												
Programme: Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)												
Projects/Components	**Location**	**Timeframe**				**Cost Indicative Budget ('million GH₵)**			**Programme Status**		**Implementing Agencies**	
		Q1	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**	**GOG**	**IGF**	**DP**	**New**	**Ongoing**	**Lead**	**Collaborating**
Crop Development		x	x	x	x	21,540.93	21.68	7,027.91		x	CSD, PPRSD, DAES,	All MoFA Directorates
Livestock Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	6,317.72	6.36	2,061.21		x	APD, VSD, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates
Farmers' Service Centres	All Districts	x	x	x	x	9,603.20	9.66	3,133.12	x		AESD, GIPC,	All MoFA Directorates
Farm Bank Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	6,660.02	6.70	2,172.89		x	GIDA, DCS, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates, GIPC, FIs, GIRSAL, OVCF, GCX, MoTI
Institutional Farming	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	2,471.24	2.49	806.26	x		PPMED, DCS, PPRSD	All MoFA Directorates, YEA, Police, Prisons, NSS,
Feed the Industry	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	735.86	0.74	240.08	x		DSC, PPRSD,	All MoFA Directorates MLNR, EPA, M MLGDRD, MMDAs,
Infrastructure Development	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	20,699.64	20.83	6,753.43		x	GIDA, AESD, PPMED	All MoFA Directorates
Agro-production Enclave	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	8,686.87	8.74	2,834.16		x	GIDA,	All MoFA Directorates
Operational Cost	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	92.41	0.09	30.15		x	MoFA	All MoFA Directorates

Source: MoFA, 2025

CHAPTER SEVEN

Monitoring and Evaluation Arrangements

7.1. Introduction

Effective implementation and continuous monitoring are critical to the successful delivery of the Sector Medium-Term Plan (SMTP). This section outlines the institutional framework, mechanisms, and processes that will guide the execution, coordination, tracking, and evaluation of the plan's activities and outcomes.

The implementation of this SMTP will be driven by a results-based management approach, ensuring that sectoral priorities are translated into actionable programs and projects with clearly defined outputs, outcomes, and indicators. To ensure accountability and timely delivery, roles and responsibilities across all levels of government, implementing agencies, and key stakeholders have been clearly delineated.

Monitoring mechanisms will be anchored in existing national and sectoral monitoring and evaluation (M&E) frameworks, with a focus on performance tracking, data collection, and periodic reviews. Regular reporting, stakeholder consultations, and learning processes will inform policy adjustments and resource reallocation as necessary.

In alignment with national development goals, this section presents the monitoring matrix, stakeholder analysis matrix, evaluation plan and knowledge management framework that will collectively ensure the effective execution of the sector's medium-term priorities.

7.2. Monitoring Matrix

The monitoring matrix as shown in Table 15 presents a framework for developing a detailed programme monitoring and evaluation plan. This Performance Measurement Framework (PMF) or the result matrix or monitoring matrix provides the complete list of performance indicators. Information provided on each indicator will include: (i) the clear description of the indicators and its definition to eliminate possible ambiguity in data interpretation; (ii) primary source(s) of the data; (iii) the frequency with which data will be collected; (iv) levels of disaggregation; and (v) assumptions about each indicator. It also includes the baseline data and targets.

Sources of both primary and secondary data will be required for monitoring and evaluating the performance of the sector medium term plan implementation. Sources of primary data will include public and private entities that have management responsibilities for some components of this plan. This includes but not limited to all operating units of MoFA, its projects and other implementing agencies. Other stakeholders such as other agriculture related MDAs, private sector organisations, international development agencies, research institutions, and producer/input associations will be contacted for secondary data.

The disaggregation of key data types presents opportunities for better analysis. Data will be disaggregated in numerous ways, including gender, age, location and target organisation, in order to determine how the Pan has performed in the data sets within the web based M&E portal and GhAAP. Disaggregated data will be continuously monitored at the decentralised levels to track performance of sector programmes and implementation. A comprehensive results framework are outlined in Table 37.

The Feed Ghana have been developed as the main vehicle/flagship programme for the implementation of this SMTDP (2026 – 2029). The main objectives for the medium-term period to be monitored through the M&E matrix (Table 37) are same as the objectives of this SMTDP (2026 – 2029) as listed below:

i. ***Increase agricultural productivity and production to reduce imports:*** *Increase productivity of major staples such as maize (2.6Mt/ha), rice (2.6 Mt/ha) and soyabean (1.62 Mt/ha) to 4.05 Mt/ha (56%), 4.80 Mt/ha (85%), and 2.33 Mt/ha (44%) respectively by 2029.*

ii. ***Enhance food security, reduce the cost of a healthy diet and improve nutritional outcomes:*** *Improve Ghana's food self-sufficiency status of major food staples (target commodities) to at least 100% by 2029 to reduce the cost of a healthy diet and improve all the key nutritional outcome indicators such as increased food availability, intake and dietary diversity etc.*

iii. ***Increase raw material for agro-industry:*** *Increase raw material supply to agro-industry by at least 30% from local sources by 2029.*

iv. ***Enhance value addition:***
- *Increase the percentage of agro-produce processed locally in this medium term.*
- *Increase the number of agro-industrial firms and their processing capacities within this medium term by providing enablers for the private sector to invest in this space.*

v. ***Increase Agricultural Export:*** *Increase non-traditional agricultural export by at least 20% by the end of this medium term.*

vi. ***Create Jobs and wealth:*** *Creation of at least 900,000[22] direct jobs and 1,700,000[23] indirect jobs along the agricultural value chain by the end of this medium term.*

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[1] According to the World bank (2017) – Jobs from Agriculture in Africa report estimated job creation in staple crops agriculture ranges from 10 to 25 jobs per 100 hectares, varying by crop intensity. These jobs created are estimated from the increment in area under cultivation.
[23] According to the ILO (2019) - In agriculture/rural value chains, every direct job can generate 1.5–2 indirect jobs in transport, processing, and services.

Table 37: Results Framework for Sector Medium term Plan (2026-2029)

Goal: ***To 'modernize agriculture and promoting agri-business to ensure food security, reduce food inflation, boost exports, and create sustainable jobs".***

Programme: ***Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)***

INDICATOR	INDICATOR DEFINITION	INDICATOR TYPE/LEVEL	BASELINE (2024)	TARGETS				DATA DISAGGREGATION	FREQUENCY OF REPORTING
				2026	2027	2028	2029		
Agricultural Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate (%)	Measure of Agricultural Sector Performance – Percentage of growth over previous year	Impact	4,6	6	6	6	6	National	Annual
Share of Agriculture to National GDP (%)	Percentage of agricultural contribution to the total GDP	Impact	21	19	18	17	17	National	Annual
Percentage (%) Food Self-sufficiency: - Cereals - Starchy Staples - Legumes - Rice - Maize - Soyabean - Sorghum - Tomato - Onion - Peper - Cassava - Plantain - Yam - Poultry - cattle - Sheep - Goat - Pig - etc	Percentage of a total commodity supply in the country as compare to what is demanded per year	Impact	 74.4 100.1 100.0 38.5 91 83 72 38	 59.4 109 101 88 46	 70.2 119 108 94 59	 81.3 132 118 106 80	 100 100 100 102.2 150 131 125 108	National	Annual
Underweight (%)		Impact	11.2	9	9	9	9	National	4 Years
Stunting (%)		Impact	17.5	16	16	15	14	National	4 Years
Wasting (%)		Impact	6.8	<5	<5	<5	<5	National	4 Years

Goal: ***To 'modernize agriculture and promoting agri-business to ensure food security, reduce food inflation, boost exports, and create sustainable jobs".*** **Programme:** ***Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)***									
INDICATOR	**INDICATOR DEFINITION**	**INDICATOR TYPE/LEVEL**	**BASELINE (2024)**	**TARGETS**				**DATA DISAGGREGATION**	**FREQUENCY OF REPORTING**
				2026	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**		
Finance and Administration									
Percentage (%) of Agricultural expenditure in total national expenditure	Improve Management of Finance and Administration	Output	4.02	10	10	10	10	National	Annual
Percentage (%) of approved budget released		Output	94.6	100	100	100	100	National	Annual
Percentage (%) of released budget expended		Output	85.4	100	100	100	100	National	Annual
Percentage (%) of planned activities implemented		Output	85	90	95	100	100	National	Annual
Human Resource Development and Management									
Number of Agricultural technical staff strength	Enhance Human Resource Development and Management	Output	1,549	2000	2500	3600	4250		Annual
Male-Female ratio of technical staff		Output	4:1	3:1	2:1	1:1	1:1	National	Annual
Number of staff who received in-service training		Output	839	1000	1200	1500	2000	National	Annual
Number of staff who received local training		Output	39	150	150	180	250	National	Annual
Number of staff who received foreign training		Output	20					National	Annual
Productivity Improvement									
Quantity of fertilizer accessed by farmers	Enhance input utilization	Output	285,000					National	Annual
Quantity of Certified Seeds accessed by farmers			34,291.03					National	Annual
Fertiliser application rate (kg/ha)			25					National	Annual
Number of PFJ beneficiary farmers			1,651,650					National	Annual
Total volume and value of agricultural commodities exported '000 Kg, (US$'000):	Strengthen Agricultural Marketing and Trade	Output							
- Cashew			325,407.5 (287,457.7)					National	Annual

Goal: *To 'modernize agriculture and promoting agri-business to ensure food security, reduce food inflation, boost exports, and create sustainable jobs".* **Programme:** *Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)*									
INDICATOR	**INDICATOR DEFINITION**	**INDICATOR TYPE/LEVEL**	**BASELINE (2024)**	**TARGETS**				**DATA DISAGGREGATION**	**FREQUENCY OF REPORTING**
				2026	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**		
- Coffee			1.1 (5.2)					National	Annual
- Shea nut			36,161.9 (20,193.5)					National	Annual
- Maize			6.2 (1.3)					National	Annual
- Yam products			2,105.6 (666.1)					National	Annual
- Exotic vegetables								National	Annual
- Pineapple			12987.9 (9,464.9)					National	Annual
- Mango			4,708.3 (19,507.4)					National	Annual
- Pawpaw			112,422.7 (734061)					National	Annual
- Banana								National	Annual
- Fish and sea food								National	Annual
Total volume and value of rice imported '000 Kg, (US$'000)								National	Annual
Number of improved Technology demonstrated to farmers	Improved Extension Service delivery	Output						National	Annual
Total number of farmers participating in demonstrations								National	Annual
Total extension home and farm visits								National	Annual
Total number of farmers visited								National	Annual
Yield of crops (Mt/Ha)									
Maize	Improve Production Efficiency and Yield	Outcome						National	Annual
Rice								National	Annual

Goal: ***To 'modernize agriculture and promoting agri-business to ensure food security, reduce food inflation, boost exports, and create sustainable jobs".*** **Programme:** ***Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)***									
INDICATOR	**INDICATOR DEFINITION**	**INDICATOR TYPE/LEVEL**	**BASELINE (2024)**	**TARGETS**				**DATA DISAGGREGATION**	**FREQUENCY OF REPORTING**
				2026	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**		
Millet								National	Annual
Sorghum								National	Annual
Cassava								National	Annual
Yam								National	Annual
Cocoyam								National	Annual
Plantain								National	Annual
Groundnuts								National	Annual
Cowpea								National	Annual
Soyabean								National	Annual
Production of crops (Mt)									
Maize		Outcome						National	Annual
Rice								National	Annual
Millet								National	Annual
Sorghum								National	Annual
Cassava								National	Annual
Yam								National	Annual
Cocoyam								National	Annual
Plantain								National	Annual
Groundnuts								National	Annual
Cowpea								National	Annual
Soyabean								National	Annual
Certified Seed Production (Mt/Ha)	Improve seed production and quality assurance	Outcome							
Maize								National	Annual
Rice								National	Annual

Goal: ***To 'modernize agriculture and promoting agri-business to ensure food security, reduce food inflation, boost exports, and create sustainable jobs".*** **Programme:** ***Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)***									
INDICATOR	**INDICATOR DEFINITION**	**INDICATOR TYPE/LEVEL**	**BASELINE (2024)**	**TARGETS**				**DATA DISAGGREGATION**	**FREQUENCY OF REPORTING**
				2026	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**		
Soyabean								National	Annual
Sorghum								National	Annual
Groundnut								National	Annual
Cowpea								National	Annual
Cassava								National	Annual
Sweet Potato								National	Annual
Coconut								National	Annual
Cashew								National	Annual
Mango								National	Annual
Oil palm								National	Annual
Rubber			-					National	Annual
Shea			-					National	Annual
Mechanisation, Irrigation and Water management									
Number of AMSECs established	Increase access to mechanization along the agricultural value chain	Output	n/a					National	Annual
Number of AMSECs operational			n/a					National	Annual
Number of water users association	Enhance farmers access to irrigation	Outcome						National	Annual
Percentage of cultivated lands under irrigation (area developed for irrigation/ha):								National	Annual
- Total area (formal and Informal)								National	Annual
- Formal								National	Annual
- Informal/Smallholder								National	Annual

Goal: ***To 'modernize agriculture and promoting agri-business to ensure food security, reduce food inflation, boost exports, and create sustainable jobs".*** **Programme:** ***Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)***									
INDICATOR	**INDICATOR DEFINITION**	**INDICATOR TYPE/LEVEL**	**BASELINE (2024)**	**TARGETS**				**DATA DISAGGREGATION**	**FREQUENCY OF REPORTING**
				2026	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**		
-Large scale commercial								National	Annual
Number of farmers using irrigation facilities			n/a					National	Annual
Livestock development									
Contribution of livestock to AgGDP	Livestock and Poultry Development for Food Security and Income Generation	Impact	5.8					National	Annual
Livestock population		Outcome						National	Annual
-Cow								National	Annual
-Goat								National	Annual
-Sheep								National	Annual
-Poultry								National	Annual
Quantity of meat produced (Mt)		Outcome						National	Annual
Quantity of meat imported (Mt)			n/a					National	Annual
Post-harvest Management and Agricultural Marketing									
Number of Functional warehouses	Improved Post-Harvest Management	Output	n/a					National	Annual
Number of Warehouse Beneficiaries			n/a					National	Annual
Total volume of cereals stored (Mt)			n/a					National	Annual
Percentage (%) of post-harvest losses:								National	Annual
Maize		Outcome	n/a					National	Annual
Rice			n/a					National	Annual
Millet			n/a					National	Annual
Cassava			n/a					National	Annual
Size of national buffer stock (Mt)								National	Annual
Maize (white)		Outcome						National	Annual

Goal: ***To 'modernize agriculture and promoting agri-business to ensure food security, reduce food inflation, boost exports, and create sustainable jobs".***

Programme: ***Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)***

INDICATOR	INDICATOR DEFINITION	INDICATOR TYPE/LEVEL	BASELINE (2024)	TARGETS				DATA DISAGGREGATION	FREQUENCY OF REPORTING
				2026	2027	2028	2029		
Maize (yellow)								National	Annual
Rice								National	Annual
Agricultural Financing	Programme 3: Agribusiness Development								
Number of farmers who accessed credit	Promote Private Sector Investment in Agriculture	Output						National	Annual
Volume of credit disbursed by the private sector								National	Annual
Volume of Commodities traded on the Ghana Commodity Exchange (GCX)		Outcome	n/a					National	Annual
Sustainable Management of land and natural resources	Programme 4: Climate Change, Environment and Land management								
Number of climate change awareness/sensitization training conducted	Improve Sustainable Management of Land and Environment	Output						National	Annual
Number of farmers who benefited from climate change awareness training								National	Annual
Climate change mitigation and resilience scheme									
Total Cropped Area (Ha) under conservation agriculture	Outcome							National	Annual
Number of farmers Practicing Conservation Agriculture								National	Annual
Number of hectares salvaged from the FAW								National	Annual

Goal: ***To 'modernize agriculture and promoting agri-business to ensure food security, reduce food inflation, boost exports, and create sustainable jobs".*** **Programme:** ***Feed Ghana Programme (FGP)***									
INDICATOR	**INDICATOR DEFINITION**	**INDICATOR TYPE/LEVEL**	**BASELINE (2024)**	**TARGETS**				**DATA DISAGGREGATION**	**FREQUENCY OF REPORTING**
				2026	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**		
Total number of Insecticide/chemicals distributed to farmers for the management of FAW								National	Annual
Estimated number of biological control agents mass reared for the management of FAW								National	Annual

7.3. Implementation Agencies

The Plan will be implemented by a wide range of stakeholder institutions including MDAs (national level), RCCs (regional), MMDAs (district), private sector, civil society organisations and development partners across the sector. The District Assemblies under the MLGDRD will be in charge of delivery of extension services and other public goods at the local level.

7.4. Harmonisation and alignment of interventions

The strategic framework of the plan empowers the Government to harmonize and align Government and donor interventions. There is the need to bring all stakeholders on board the implementation of this plan to ensure synergy in activity implementation to avoid duplication and waste of resources. All ongoing interventions will be mapped with one or more programmes and intervention areas. The Broad Activity being implemented, the financial contribution to the Broad Activity and targets to be accounted for will be spelt out clearly. New Government and donor financed operations will be linked to the intervention within the framework of this plan. Government's approval will be granted only if compliance check yields a positive outcome.

7.5. Stakeholder Analysis Matrix

The effective implementation and monitoring of the Agricultural Sector Medium-Term Plan require strong collaboration among diverse stakeholders. Each institution plays a unique role in ensuring that progress is tracked, results are measured, and feedback is used to improve policy and implementation. The roles and responsibilities assigned to stakeholders are designed to foster accountability, transparency, and data-driven decision-making across the sector.

From government ministries and oversight bodies to private sector actors, civil society, farmer groups, and academia, all parties contribute to a comprehensive M&E system. Their involvement spans technical support, policy oversight, data collection, validation, learning, and advocacy. This inclusive, multi-stakeholder approach ensures that the monitoring and evaluation process reflects the realities on the ground and supports continuous improvement of sector interventions. Table 14 is a list of institutions identified and their roles and responsibilities in the implementation of the sector medium term plan.

Table 38: Stakeholders and their Responsibilities

Institution	Roles and Responsibilities
Ministry of Food and Agriculture	Coordination of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the sector medium term plan
Ministry of Local Government, Chieftaincy, and Religious Affairs	Coordinate M&E activities at the district and local levels; ensure integration of agricultural plans into District Medium-Term Development Plans; facilitate feedback from traditional authorities and religious groups.
Ministry of Finance	Provide budgetary oversight for M&E activities; monitor financial disbursements to agricultural projects; ensure value-for-money audits and reporting.
Ministry of Trade, Agribusiness and Industry	Track performance of agribusiness-related interventions; monitor market access, value chains, and trade outcomes linked to agricultural programs.

Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI)	Monitor environmental impacts of agricultural activities; track adoption of climate-smart and sustainable farming technologies; support data integration on environmental indicators.
Parliamentarians (Select Committee on Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs)	Oversight role in evaluating M&E reports; advocate for policy improvements based on monitoring results; ensure accountability through parliamentary reviews and hearings.
National Development Planning Commission (NDPC)	Lead coordination of national M&E framework; integrate agricultural sector indicators into national development tracking systems; support capacity building and provide technical guidance on M&E tools.
Private Sector	Provide performance data on private-sector-led agricultural initiatives; assess investment climate and ease of doing business; participate in M&E reviews and learning forums.
Civil Society Organisation (CSO)	Conduct independent monitoring and social accountability audits; ensure inclusivity, transparency, and equity in program delivery; advocate for underserved groups.
Research and Academia	Provide technical support in developing indicators and methodologies; lead impact evaluations and policy-relevant research; analyze data to inform decision-making.
Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment	Track youth participation and employment in agriculture; monitor youth-targeted programs and entrepreneurship outcomes in agribusiness.
Presidential Initiatives in Agriculture and Agribusiness (Office of the President)	Ensure alignment of M&E with national flagship initiatives; track performance of special presidential programs; support dissemination of high-level progress reports.

7.6. Gender Inclusivity

The plan is designed in line with Ghana’s National Gender and Children Policy. The gender analysis of the agricultural sector revealed gender gaps along the value chain, with women on the disadvantaged side. Most of the gender gaps are outlined in access to land, inputs, technical skills, networks, agricultural services, markets and agricultural technologies. To address the identified gender gaps, specific activities and measures will be put in place to uplift the conditions of women in the implementation of the plan.

7.7. Youth Employment

This plan will help create business opportunities and decent employment for young women and men along the country's agricultural value chains, supporting youths’ line with employment in agriculture.

7.8. People Living with Disabilities (PLWD)

The plan is committed to the full inclusion of People Living with Disabilities (PLWD) in line with Ghana’s Disability Act and international conventions. Recognizing the barriers PLWD face in the agricultural sector such as limited access to training, finance, and adaptive tools the plan will implement targeted measures to ensure their equitable participation. These may include providing inclusive training, promoting accessible agricultural technologies, and supporting disability-friendly financial products. These efforts aim to empower PLWD as active contributors to agricultural value chains and national development.

7.9. Evaluation Plan

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) is a basis of the Sector Medium-Term Plan (SMTP), providing a structured mechanism to track implementation, measure performance, and ensure accountability for results. The M&E system is designed to promote evidence-based decision-making, enhance programme effectiveness, and align sectoral progress with national development priorities such as the Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies (CPESDP), and relevant subregional commitments, including ECOWAP and the Malabo Declaration.

The M&E framework adopts a results-based approach**,** enabling stakeholders to systematically monitor inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes, and impacts across the programme lifecycle. Key performance indicators (KPIs) have been clearly defined to support real-time monitoring and timely course correction where necessary.

Regular data collection, reporting, and validation processes will be carried out in collaboration with implementing agencies, decentralized government structures, and non-state actors. Periodic reviews quarterly, mid-year, and annual will inform policy adjustments, improve targeting, and strengthen accountability at all levels.

To assess overall effectiveness, two major evaluations will be conducted:

i. Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE): To be carried out at the midpoint of the plan cycle, the MTE will assess implementation progress, identify bottlenecks, capture early outcomes, and document lessons learned.
ii. End-of-Programme Evaluation (EPE): This final evaluation will examine the extent to which the objectives and outcomes of the plan has been achieved, assess impact on beneficiaries, and evaluate sustainability. It will also contribute to sector learning and inform the design of future interventions.

7.9.1. Participatory M&E

In the implementation of this plan, a participatory M&E approach will be used by deploying all the knowledge and resources of a wide range of stakeholders including relevant MDAs, private sector, CSOs, etc. Detailed PM&E approaches can be found in the M&E plan.

7.9.2. Knowledge Management Framework

Effective implementation of the Sector Medium-Term Plan depends heavily on the systematic generation, documentation, sharing, and use of knowledge. A structured Knowledge Management and Learning (KM&L) framework ensures that evidence, institutional memory, and lessons from the field are consistently fed into decision-making and planning processes. This enhances policy coherence, operational efficiency, innovation, and accountability.

The following KM&L frameworks and approaches will be applied to support planning, decision-making, implementation, and reporting throughout the Plan period:

Knowledge Generation Frameworks

a. Research Policy Interface Framework

- Collaborate with research institutions and academia to generate actionable evidence for sector priorities.
- Commission policy-relevant studies and operational research.
- Align research agendas with sector goals and emerging needs.

b. Communities of Practice (CoPs)

- Facilitate learning and knowledge exchange among stakeholders and policymakers.
- Support thematic working groups focused on sub-sector priorities.

Knowledge Capture and Documentation Frameworks

a. After-Action Reviews (AARs) & Learning Reviews

- Conduct AARs following major activities or projects to capture what worked, what didn't, and why.
- Institutionalize learning reviews at mid-term and end-term phases of the plan.

b. Best Practices & Lessons Learned Repositories

- Develop a centralized digital platform (knowledge hub or sector portal) to store:
  - Success stories
  - Implementation models
  - Case studies
  - M&E findings
- Tag and categorize knowledge products by region, thematic area, and stakeholder type

Knowledge Sharing and Dissemination Frameworks

a. Digital Knowledge Platforms

- Establish or enhance sector-specific knowledge portals or intranets for real-time access to data, guidelines, reports, and training materials.
- Leverage GIS-based dashboards, interactive maps, and mobile platforms to increase accessibility.

b. Knowledge Events and Dialogues

- Organize annual sector learning forums, policy dialogues, and innovation fairs.
- Promote inter-district and inter-agency experience-sharing events.

c. Policy Briefs and Decision-Support Tools

- Translate complex data and research into concise, user-friendly formats for policymakers.
- Develop dashboards and decision-support tools for senior leadership.

Learning and Capacity Strengthening Frameworks

a. Learning Agenda Development

- Define a sector-wide learning agenda aligned with SMTP objectives.

- Identify learning questions tied to planning, implementation, and service delivery challenges.

b. Capacity Development Plans

- Implement structured training for staff on:
    - Evidence-informed planning
    - Adaptive management
    - KM tools and techniques
- Partner with universities and training institutions to deliver accredited courses.

Feedback and Adaptive Learning Loops

a. Evidence-to-Action Cycle

- Ensure that M&E findings and research outcomes are used in real-time to inform program adjustments.
- Establish protocols for periodic reflection, validation, and reprogramming based on learning.

b. Stakeholder Feedback Mechanisms

- Integrate citizen feedback, community scorecards, and grievance redress systems to inform continuous learning and reporting.

Integration with Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

- Embed KM&L indicators into the M&E framework (e.g., number of knowledge products developed, frequency of learning events, application of findings).
- Link M&E systems with knowledge platforms to allow seamless flow of performance data and learning insights.
- Ensure KM&L is a standing item in quarterly and annual sector performance reviews.

The adoption of structured Knowledge Management and Learning frameworks will enable the sector to evolve from activity-based programming to evidence-driven planning and adaptive implementation. It fosters a culture of continuous improvement and strengthens the capacity of institutions and individuals to deliver on the goals of the Sector Medium-Term Plan.

7.10. Sustainability, Accountability, and Lessons Learned in Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) is a critical component of effective policy and program implementation. To ensure long-term impact, it is essential that M&E systems are not only well-designed but also sustainable, accountable, and continuously informed by lessons learned. This section outlines how M&E in the sector will contribute to institutional learning, transparent decision-making, and adaptive management over the medium-term.

7.10.1. Sustainability

To ensure the long-term viability and effectiveness of M&E, this plan prioritizes the development of robust, integrated, and country-owned systems that can function beyond individual projects or donor cycles. Key sustainability measures include:

i. Institutionalization of M&E Units: Strengthening M&E capacity within ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs) through dedicated units with trained personnel and budget allocations.
ii. Data Systems Integration: Aligning M&E systems with national statistical frameworks and information systems (e.g., Ghana Statistical Service, national dashboards).
iii. Capacity Building: Continuous training for staff at all levels from central government to district and community levels to conduct, manage, and utilize M&E activities.
iv. Ownership and Leadership: Promoting government and stakeholder ownership of M&E tools, indicators, and processes, reducing reliance on external consultants or donor-led systems.
v. Use of Technology: Leveraging digital platforms and real-time data collection tools to improve efficiency and reduce long-term costs.

7.10.2. Accountability

Effective M&E enhances accountability to stakeholders, including citizens, government, donors, and implementing partners. To embed transparency and responsiveness:

i. Regular Reporting: Publishing timely and accessible M&E reports, dashboards, and briefs at district, regional, and national levels.
ii. Participatory M&E: Involving beneficiaries, civil society organizations, and community leaders in monitoring processes to increase credibility and local relevance.
iii. Feedback Loops: Establishing clear mechanisms for stakeholders to provide feedback on services, performance, and implementation challenges and ensuring that such feedback informs decision-making.
iv. Performance Reviews and Scorecards: Using evidence-based tools such as scorecards, performance contracts, and annual review forums to measure progress and hold implementers accountable.
v. Auditing and Verification: Encouraging third-party audits or independent evaluations to validate M&E findings and improve trust

7.10.3. Lessons Learned

Learning from past experiences is essential for refining policies and improving future implementation. This plan promotes a culture of learning through:

i. Systematic Documentation: Capturing best practices, challenges, innovations, and failures during program implementation and evaluations.
ii. Evaluation Use: Ensuring that findings from mid-term reviews, impact evaluations, and performance assessments are disseminated and directly inform planning and budgeting.
iii. Knowledge Sharing Platforms: Hosting regular learning events such as policy dialogues, reflection workshops, and sector learning conferences.

iv. Adaptive Programming: Creating flexible program designs that allow for course correction based on real-time evidence and changing contextual realities (e.g., climate events, market shifts, health pandemics).

v. Linkage with Research Institutions: Partnering with universities, think tanks, and independent evaluators to deepen analysis and support evidence-based policy reform

7.11. MoFA Web-Based Portal

MoFA web-based portal is a tool for data collection, analysis, reporting and presentation of statistical data, tailored to agricultural information management activities. It is a flexible system that allows users to customise the contents of specific information without the need for programming.

Security Features of Web-Based Portal

The web-based portal uses Linux operating system which is an open source. This implies that programmers can see the source code and redesign it according to their needs. Linux is also free to install (meaning you do not need a licence to use it). Linux systems are widely known for their stability and reliability. Many Linux servers on the Internet have been running for years without failure or even being restarted. Linux has virus and hacking protection as compared to Windows.

What the Web-Based Portal Can Do

i. Provide updates on regions and districts that submitted data on each dataset.
ii. The web-based portal allows for validation rules to be set up to identify wrong entries and
iii. outliers to ensure data quality.
iv. Helps management to track and access performance by organisation units (regions,
v. districts, zones and operational areas).
vi. Display of key performance indicators using graphs/charts, maps and tables on
vii. dashboard.
viii. Serves as a repository (storage and retrieval of data).
ix. Provides mechanism for users and user groups to interact.

7.12. Ghana Agriculture and Agribusiness Platform (GhAAP)

It is an integrated and interoperable web-based platform designed to provide information, insights, inputs, agronomic practices, markets, and other resources to various actors in the agribusiness value chain. It aims to enhance coordination, transparency, interaction, tracking, monitoring, and real-time reporting within the agricultural sector.

The platform includes several modules to support different aspects of the agricultural value chain. The modules cover areas such as farmer registration, managing inputs and inventory, tracking products for food safety, providing agricultural statistics, and assisting aggregators with coordination and distribution. GhAAP also supports warehouse management, financial services, payments, and connecting off-takers with available commodities for trading. GhAAP connects farmers to essential services like mechanization, insurance providers, financial institutions, labor organizations, plant protection, irrigation, veterinary services, and weather forecasts.

The Platform consist of several modules designed to address the needs of all the value chain actors/stakeholders and support the goals of the Plan. A brief description of the key modules are presented below:

i. User Interface Services - User-friendly interface that allows stakeholders to easily interact with the platform
ii. Registration Service - Handles the registration of stakeholders and assignment of unique IDs. To store information about al stakeholders in the value chain, including farmers, aggregators, input dealers, financial institutions, service providers, and off takers
iii. Aggregation Service - Facilitates the management of farmers by aggregators.
iv. Financial Service - Manages transactions between financial institutions, Input dealers, aggregators and off-takers.
v. Input Management Service - Coordinates the supply of agricultural inputs to farmers.
vi. Market Place Service - Allows stakeholders to buy and sel agricultural produce, inputs, and services
vii. Support Services - Provides support services to stakeholders, such as technical assistance, training, and dispute resolution.
viii. Extension Service - Supports the activities of extension agents.
ix. Warehouse Management Service - Manages the recovery and sale of produce.
x. Notification & Event Service - Keeps stakeholders informed about key events and updates. Reporting and Data Analytics Service - Provides insights and trends to support decision-making.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Communication Strategy

8.1. Introduction

Dissemination and Communication of information is an essential tool in the implementation of a sector plan. Stakeholders should be well informed about how the plan will be implemented. This is very critical in ensuring that real time information is available to all stakeholders to enable effective implementation of the plan. A communication strategy will thus be developed for thIS Sector Plan to facilitate information sharing among stakeholders.

8.2. Communication Strategy

The communication strategy for this sector medium term plan will create awareness and good understanding among all stakeholders on details of the plan. It will enable stakeholders have knowledge about the Programmes, Sub-programmes, Intervention Areas and Activities that are proposed to be implemented during the period 2026-2029.

The Communication Strategy will enable us achieve the following objectives: (i) Effectively communicate the Vision, Mission, Goal and Objectives of the agricultural sector as outlined in this plan; (ii) Promote appreciation of the need for a coordinated approach to the implementation of agricultural development interventions by sustaining stakeholder participation, consultation, support, and collaboration in the implementation of this plan; (iii) Strengthen coordination between and among stakeholders, including national and international partners; (iv) Ensure consistency of data, information and messages in the sector; (v) Identify, develop and utilize appropriate communication channels, tools and activities to implement this plan; and (vi) Disseminate priorities, achievements, progress and identified gaps and strategies to relevant stakeholders and the public at large (see Table 15).

Table 39: Summary of Communication Activity Matrix

Activity	Purpose	Audience	Methods/Tools of communication	Timeframe	Responsibility
Meet with Heads of MDAs including MoFA Staff at all levels	1. Obtain political commitment and top management support. 2. Create an enabling environment for all staff to be actively be involved in plan implementation. 3. Ensure deep understanding of the plan and how it will be implemented.	Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Chief Directors, Directors, Deputy Directors, Heads of Departments, Divisions and units and staff of MoFA and agricultural related MDAs	▪ Seminars ▪ Policy Fora ▪ Workshops ▪ Consultations ▪ Face-to-face discussions ▪ Policy briefs ▪ Brochures ▪ Stakeholder platforms ▪ Virtual engagements	Quarterly, Annually	PPMED
Meet with members of Parliament	1. Obtain political commitment and goodwill. 2. Strengthen dialogue with the legislature. 3. Advocate for adequate resource allocation.	Members of Parliament and Members of relevant Select Committees	▪ Seminars ▪ Policy Fora ▪ Workshops ▪ Consultations ▪ Face-to-face discussions ▪ Policy briefs ▪ Brochures	October to December annually	PPMED

Activity	Purpose	Audience	Methods/Tools of communication	Timeframe	Responsibility
			▪ Virtual engagements		
Meet with MLGDRD at all the Decentralised levels	1. Obtain political commitment at decentralised levels. 2. Create an understanding of the plan at the levels of implementation. 3. Create a sense of ownership of the development programmes and projects that come with the plan. 4. Impart knowledge and skills to implementing agencies at the decentralised levels.	Regional Ministers, Chief Executives and all relevant staff members of Regional Coordinating Councils and Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies.	▪ Seminars ▪ Policy Fora ▪ Workshops ▪ Consultations ▪ Face-to-face discussions ▪ Durbars ▪ Virtual engagements ▪ Policy briefs ▪ Information brochures ▪ Policy dialogues	Quarterly, Annually	PPMED
Meet with Sub-District Council level officials	1. Create sense of ownership of development interventions. 2. Create a participatory learning culture. 3. Build strong bridges among stakeholders	Traditional Authorities, Opinion leaders, Councillors, etc.	▪ Training workshops ▪ Follow-ups ▪ Community durbars ▪ Virtual engagements ▪ Consultations	Quarterly, Annually	PPMED
Meet with FBOs, private sector actors and CSOs	1. Create sense of ownership of development interventions. 2. Create a participatory learning culture. 3. Build strong bridges between MoFA and other stakeholders. 4. Advocate for strong private sector investment in the sector. 5. Advocate for coherence in the operations of CSOs in the sector.	Farmers, aggregators, processors, NGOs, marketers, consumers, financial institutions, input dealers etc.	▪ Training Workshops ▪ Follow-ups ▪ Community durbars ▪ Consultations ▪ Policy briefs ▪ Brochures ▪ Virtual engagements ▪ Investment briefs ▪ Joint review sessions	Quarterly, Annually	PPMED /DAES
Meet with researchers	1. Provide demand-driven research information. 2. Provide knowledge and databases. 3. Provide training support and feedback 4. Advocate for action research that involves the participation of the relevant stakeholders.	Agricultural researchers and academia	▪ Seminars ▪ Policy Fora ▪ Workshops ▪ Consultations ▪ Face-to-face discussions ▪ Virtual engagements	Quarterly, Annually	PPMED/DAES
Meet with Development Partners	1. Jointly agree on priorities on the sector 2. Provide information on developments and progress towards objectives. 3. Advocate and lobby for financial and technical support.	Development Partners (national, regional and global levels)	▪ Workshops ▪ Consultations ▪ Face-to-face discussions ▪ Policy briefs ▪ Brochures ▪ Investment briefs	Quarterly., Annually	PPMED

Activity	Purpose	Audience	Methods/Tools of communication	Timeframe	Responsibility
			▪ Websites ▪ Virtual engagements ▪ Stakeholder platforms		

Appendix

Appendix 1: Knowledge Mapping Matrix

Knowledge Area	Existing Knowledge / Data	Source(s)	Knowledge Gaps	Action Required	Responsible Entity
Crop Production Trends	MOFA Annual Reports, FASDEP	MOFA, Ghana Statistical Service (GSS)	Limited disaggregated data (regional, crop-type level), outdated production forecasts	Update national crop baseline & develop dynamic forecast models	MOFA (SRID), GSS
Climate Impact on Agriculture	Ghana Meteorological Agency climate projections, CSIR reports	CSIR, GMet, EPA	Lack of localized climate risk maps for agriculture	Conduct agro-ecological zone-level climate vulnerability assessment	EPA, CSIR, GMet, NADMO
Irrigation Infrastructure & Usage	Ghana Irrigation Development Authority (GIDA) reports	MOFA (GIDA)	No real-time data on functional irrigation schemes, poor geo-mapping	Develop GIS-based irrigation infrastructure inventory	MOFA (GIDA)
Agricultural Financing Access	Bank of Ghana reports, AGRA studies,	BoG, MOFA, GIRSAL, Financial Institutions	Weak data on access to credit for smallholder farmers and women	Conduct financial inclusion survey for agriculture	MOFA, BoG, Ministry of Finance,GIRSAL
Market Access & Value Chains	Ghana Commodity Exchange, FAO reports	GCX, FAO, AGRA	Limited value chain studies for high-potential crops	Map and assess priority value chains (maize, rice, cashew, tomato, etc.)	MOFA, Private Sector, FAO
Post-Harvest Losses	MOFA Post-Harvest Strategy, research by academic institutions	MOFA, KNUST, UDS	Data outdated, lacks regional comparison and commodity-specific loss rates	Commission updated national post-harvest loss survey	MOFA (AESD), Academia
Youth & Women in Agriculture	Youth in Agriculture Programme (YIAP), gender-focused reports	MOFA, UN Women, GSS	Fragmented data on youth employment and gender roles in agri-enterprises	Conduct gender- and youth-disaggregated agricultural labor study	MOFA (SRID), GSS
Agricultural Technology Adoption	Extension Service Reports, IFPRI studies	DAEA, IFPRI, SARI	Little real-time data on adoption rates by region or demographic	Deploy digital farmer registry and conduct periodic adoption surveys	MOFA (DAES), CSIR, SARI, Esoko
Land Tenure and Access	Lands Commission data, Customary Land Secretariat Reports	Lands Commission, MLNR	Incomplete data on land disputes, access challenges for women/youth	Integrate land tenure data with GIS and farmer registry	MLNR, Lands Commission, MOFA
Food Security & Nutrition	Ghana Demographic and Health Survey, Food Security Reports	GSS, MOFA, UNICEF, FAO	Limited seasonal and regional granularity	Establish Early Warning and Food Insecurity Monitoring System	MOFA, NADMO, GSS, FAO

Appendix 2: Competency Matrix for Learning

Competency	Training Program	Learning Objectives	Evaluation Criteria
Agricultural Policy Analysis & Formulation	Advanced policy formulation and impact analysis training	Enhance capacity to design, analyze, and evaluate sector policies aligned with national priorities	Participants can draft policy briefs and conduct basic impact assessments
Data Collection & Statistical Analysis	Training in field survey methods and statistical software (e.g. STATA, R)	Build skills in collecting, cleaning, and analyzing agricultural data for evidence-based planning	Ability to produce quality datasets and statistical reports
GIS & Spatial Data for Planning	GIS mapping and spatial analysis training	Equip staff with skills to use spatial tools for infrastructure planning, zoning, and crop monitoring	Staff can produce basic GIS maps and conduct spatial analysis

Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)	Results-based management, indicator design, and M&E framework training	Strengthen knowledge in setting up and managing M&E systems aligned to sector goals	Clear logframes developed; staff can generate monitoring reports
Budgeting & Agricultural Financial Planning	Program-based budgeting and cost estimation training	Improve budgeting accuracy and alignment of resources with program outputs	Staff can prepare program-based budgets and justify allocations
Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) & Environmental Integration	Training on CSA principles and climate risk integration	Understand CSA practices and how to mainstream environmental resilience into plans	Officers can integrate CSA into extension programs and reports
Value Chain & Market Systems Analysis	Training on market systems development, value chain mapping, and competitiveness analysis	Build skills to analyze agricultural value chains and identify market opportunities	Reports include value chain maps and gap analyses
Agricultural Extension & ICT Tools	Capacity building on digital agriculture platforms and extension best practices	Improve the effectiveness of farmer outreach through modern tools	Increased adoption of digital extension tools among field staff
Gender & Social Inclusion in Agriculture	Gender-responsive planning and inclusive programming training	Develop ability to assess and integrate gender/social dimensions into plans and programs	Sector plans include gender analysis and responsive targets
Stakeholder Engagement & Coordination	Training in facilitation, partnership development, and multi-stakeholder processes	Enhance collaboration and coordination across institutions and sectors	Participants lead or support successful coordination platforms

Appendix 3: Maintenance Plan

Types of infrastructure/Assets	Types of Maintenance	Schedule of Maintenance (Start date -end date)	Estimated cost of Maintenance	Location	Responsibility
Administration Block	Renovation, painting, Cleaning	Annually Weekly		Greater Accra Region_ La Dade-kotopon Municipal La	Fixed Assets Management Unit (FAMU) of MoFA
Account Block	Inspection Cleaning	Annually Weekly		Greater Accra Region_La Dade-kotopon Municipal La	Fixed Assets Management Unit (FAMU) of MoFA
Store block 1	Inspection, Cleaning	Quarterly Cleaning		Greater Accra Region_La Dade-kotopon Municipal La	Estate Unit of MoFA
Post-harvest/ Ghana Productive Safety Net Project	Inspection	Quarterly		Greater Accra Region_La Dade-kotopon Municipal La	Estate Unit of MoFA
Store block 2	Inspection, Cleaning	Quarterly Weekly		Greater Accra Region_La Dade-kotopon Municipal La	Estate Unit of MoFA
Driver’s block	Inspection Cleaning	Quarterly Weekly		Greater Accra Region_La Dade-kotopon Municipal La	Fixed Assets Management Unit (FAMU) of MoFA
Workshop block	Inspection Cleaning	Quarterly Weekly		Greater Accra Region_La Dade-kotopon Municipal La	Fixed Assets Management Unit (FAMU) of MoFA
Stores/ National Vocational Training Institute block	Inspection Cleaning	Quarterly Weekly		Greater Accra Region_La Dade-kotopon Municipal La	Estate Unit of MoFA
VEEPEG block	Inspection	Quarterly		Greater Accra Region_La Dade-kotopon Municipal La	Fixed Assets Management Unit (FAMU) of MoFA
store block 3	Inspection Cleaning	Quarterly Monthly		Greater Accra Region_La Dade-kotopon Municipal La	Estate Unit of MoFA
store block 4	Inspection Cleaning	Quarterly Monthly		Greater Accra Region_La Dade-kotopon Municipal La	Estate Unit of MoFA
Two Storey Administration Block (old block)	Inspection Cleaning	Quarterly Weekly		Greater Accra Region_Accra Metropolis- Osu Klotey	Fixed Assets Management Unit (FAMU) of MoFA
Two Storey Ministerial Block	Inspection Cleaning	Quarterly Weekly		Greater Accra Region_Accra Metropolis- Osu Klotey	Fixed Assets Management Unit (FAMU) of MoFA
Client Service block	Inspection Cleaning	Quarterly Weekly		Greater Accra Region_Accra Metropolis- Osu Klotey	Fixed Assets Management Unit (FAMU) of MoFA

Two Storey Administration Block (old block)	Inspection Cleaning	Quarterly Weekly		Greater Accra Region_Accra Metropolis- Osu Klotey	Fixed Assets Management Unit (FAMU) of MoFA
Office Buildings	Inspection Weekly	Quarterly Weekly		Greater Accra Region_Ga West Municipal_Amasaman	Fixed Assets Management Unit (FAMU) of MoFA
Bungalows	Inspection, Repairs	Annually		Greater Accra Region_Ga West Municipal_Amasaman	Estate Unit of MoFA
Warehouse	Inspection, Cleaning Maintenance	Quarterly Monthly Annually		Greater Accra Region_Ga West Municipal_Amasaman	Fixed Assets Management Unit of MoFA

Appendix 4: Project Sites under Irrigation for Wealth Creation (IWC)

No.	Project/Community Name	Region	District	Targeted Irrigable Area	Source of Water
PHASE ONE					
1.	Lonto	Northern	Kpandai	2,000	Lake Volta
2.	Kafaba	Savannah	Central Gonja	1,000	Lake Volta
3.	Sheri	Savannah	East Gonja	1,000	Black Volta
4.	Awate	Volta	Kpando	450	Lake Volta
PHASE TWO					
5.	Junto	Savannah	Central Gonja	1,000	White Volta
6.	Weima	North-East	Mamprugu Moagduri	1,000	White Volta
7.	Katanga	Oti	Krachi East	1,000	Lake Volta
8.	Bumbula No.1	Oti	Biakoye	700	Lake Volta
PHASE THREE					
5.	Bumbula No.2	Oti	Biakoye	350	Lake Volta
6.	Kpando-Fesi	Volta	Kpando	600	Lake Volta
7.	Tamne	Upper East	Garu	1,000	Existing Dam
8.	Tanduori	Upper West	Nadowli-Kaleo	450	Well defined valley
PHASE FOUR					
9.	Kamba	Upper West	Nandom	300	Well defined valley
10.	Kpanfa	Upper West	Wa West	143	Well defined valley
11.	Ponyamayiri	Upper West	Wa West	500	Well defined valley

Source: MoFA-GIDA, 2025