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KENYA'S PRESIDENT TOURS KWAME NKRUMAH MEMORIAL PARK; LAYS WREATH



The Mayor of Accra, Hon. Elisabeth K.T Sackey, has accompanied the Kenyan President, Dr. William Kipchirchir Samoei Arap Ruto, to tour the iconic Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum and pay homage to his indelible legacy.

The Kenyan president, who is on a three-day state visit to Ghana, was accompanied by a high-powered delegation of ministers and businessmen.

The visit, imbued with historical significance, commenced with a solemn moment of reflection at Freedom Hall, where a state vehicle used by the former President, a vintage Cadillac, made in the United States and secured with bulletproof features in Bulgaria, had been parked.

The Kenyan president later laid a wreath in front of the giant statue of Dr Nkrumah, after which he toured the Mausoleum, museum, and audio-visual gallery housing the remains of Dr Nkrumah and his wife Fatima, personal effects, publications, and pictures showing his life history, respectively.

President Samoei Arap Ruto also visited the Freedom Wall and the VVIP Lounge to sign the visitor's book. Speaking after the tour, the Mayor said the visit provided another opportunity to reflect on the enduring legacy of Kwame Nkrumah and his pivotal role in shaping the course of African history.

"As we walked through the hallowed halls of this historic site, I couldn't help but reflect on the enduring legacy of Kwame Nkrumah and his pivotal role in shaping the course of African history.

His vision of pan-African unity and liberation continues to inspire us all, serving as a guiding light as we navigate the complexities of our modern world," she said.

She emphasised the importance of collective action in addressing shared challenges and was hopeful the visit would pave the way for enhanced cooperation in areas such as trade, investment, and cultural exchange.

She reaffirmed Ghana's commitment to deepening bilateral ties with Kenya, adding that it was an honour to welcome President Ruto and extend the hospitality of our city to him and his delegation.

"Together, we can build a brighter future for all Africans, guided by the principles of unity, solidarity, and shared prosperity," she added.





AMA TO CONDUCT SWOOPS TO CURTAIL DEVIANT BEHAVIOURS AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN IN ACCRA

The Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) has announced plans to conduct swoops in various communities aimed at curbing deviant behaviours, especially among children of school-going age in the city.

The operation which formed part of activities by the AMA to rid the metropolis of deviant behaviours including drug abuse would be conducted in collaboration with the Ghana Education Service, law enforcement agencies, and community leaders to identify areas of concern and strategise on effective intervention methods.

The first female Mayor of Accra, Hon Elizabeth Kwatsoe Tawiah Sackey, disclosed this on Thursday when the AMA commemorated Ghana's 67th Independence anniversary with a colourful parade made up of 300 pupils and students comprising 20 contingents and two teachers each from the selected schools, as well as market women, cyclists at the forecourt of the AMA.

The swoops according to her would involve targeted patrols and inspections in communities known to have high incidences of misconduct among school children.

This she said followed an alarming increase in reports of deviant behaviours among school children, both on school premises and within their communities.

She explained that the swoops would be conducted in a respectful and non-discriminatory manner, with a focus on collaboration, support and punishment.

"The attention of the Assembly has been drawn to the habit of some students and pupils engaging in some of these illegal and immoral practices, particularly during off-school hours. I wish to assure you all that very soon, the METSEC will liaise with the Ghana Education Service and other appropriate agencies, to conduct swoops in some affected communities to deal with any student or pupil found on the wrong side of the law" she said.

She admonished the youth to eschew all forms of social vices such as disrespect towards law and order, adults, waywardness, drug abuse and alcoholism among others and cultivate the habit of reading.

She said the city under her leadership had championed various activities and programmes aimed at connecting the minds of marginal groups including women, the youth, migrants, street children and persons with disabilities with high levels of illiteracy through reading.

She pointed out that the quest for independence as a means to live in freedom from any form of oppression from colonial tendencies had been characterised by the desire and recognition for the rule of law adding that the democratic tenets of governance had "christened Ghana as a beacon of democracy in Africa."

She stressed the need to preserve the unity, strength and purpose which were the driving force for building a prosperous nation while paying glowing tribute to the forebears who laid down their lives to liberate the country from British Colonial rule.

She pointed out that the conduct of a free and fair election was paramount, and urged Ghanaians to "approach this year's electoral process with a sense of responsibility," ensuring that the voice of every citizen was heard and respected.

"By upholding the principles of transparency, inclusivity, and fairness, we strengthen the foundation upon which our democracy thrives, setting a shining example for our neighbours in the pursuit of a better future for all," she said.

She used the opportunity to express appreciation to the Planning Committee and all sponsors of the AMA's edition of the 67th Independence Day celebration under the theme: "Our Democracy, Our Pride".

At the end of the parade, Knowledge Worth Premier School was adjudged winners at the second cycle level, whilst Ministry of Health Basic School and Richard Akwei Memorial School took the second and third positions respectively.

Dr H.S. Bannerman Basic School on the other hand put up a splendid performance to win the basic category of the March pass in the Accra Metropolis followed by Derby Avenue R/C Basic School and Kaneshie Awudome '3'.

BIGRS SUPPORTS AMA WITH ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT TO REDUCE CRASHES



The Bloomberg Philanthropies Initiative for Global Road Safety (BIGRS) has donated Traffic Management Equipment to the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) as part of a concerted effort to promote road safety in the city.

The donation, aimed at equipping the city's enforcement drive to mitigate road hazards, includes items such as LED-light batons, reflective vests, traffic cones, directional signposts, raincoats."

Rebecca Bavinger, a Public Health Professional at Bloomberg Philanthropies (BP) handed over the equipment to the AMA on Monday when she called on the Mayor of Accra as part of a 6-day working visit to Ghana.

She disclosed that the initiative would officially end in 2025 and expressed appreciation to the AMA for the collaboration describing the partnership as wonderful.

She expressed their eagerness to accomplish as much as possible within the next twenty-one months of the partnership, emphasising the importance of leadership.

"As you know, we are engaged in the initiative with Accra through the end of 2025, we have less than 2 years left with the whole program, so we want to accomplish as much as we can in the next 21 twenty-one months we have left and looking forward to your leadership. It has been a wonderful collaboration until now," she said.

She mentioned some key achievements of the initiative citing the construction of road safety enhancement works at the Holy Trinity Cathedral, London Market Street, among others, training of police officers and communication agencies and AMA enforcement team,

donation of 12 speed guns to AMA for the Police, as well as collaboration with journalists to report on issues road safety.

"The BIGRS has worked with the AMA to train over six hundred police and enforcement teams, we have so far donated 12-speed guns to MPDD, trained different communication agencies and worked with journalists to keep road safety in the public conversation," she said.

The Mayor of Accra, Hon. Elizabeth Kwatsoe Sackey who received the equipment expressed profound gratitude to Bloomberg Philanthropies for their unwavering support and commitment to road safety initiatives stressing that donation would augment the city's capabilities to address road safety challenges effectively.

"As Accra continues to grapple with the complexities of urban mobility and traffic management, partnerships like these serve as a beacon of hope, instilling confidence in the collective effort to create safer and more sustainable transportation systems...With this Traffic Management Equipment, Accra is poised to embark on a transformative journey towards safer roads and enhanced public security," she said.

She identified motorbikes as the foremost challenge to road safety in the city and emphasised the urgent need for comprehensive measures to address the escalating risks posed by motorbikes on the streets of Accra.

"Motorbikes have become a major challenge to road safety in Accra... Their indiscriminate use, disregard for traffic laws, and speeding contribute significantly to the high rate of road crashes being witnessed in the city daily," she said.

She assured that the Assembly would intensify education and enforcement activities to deter deviant behaviours on the road.

The Bloomberg Philanthropies Initiative for Global Road Safety (BIGRS) aims to reduce road crash fatalities and injuries in low and middle-income countries and cities by implementing a comprehensive set of actions that are proven to save lives.

In 2020, the BIGRS commenced its third phase, which will run to 2025.

Priority cities of the new BIGRS phase include Accra, Addis Ababa, Bengaluru, Bogota, Buenos Aires, Guadalajara, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Kampala, Kumasi, Mumbai, New Delhi, Sao Paulo, Salvador, and Recife.

SQUATTERS ON AVENOR SCHOOL LAND OPT FOR VOLUNTARY RELOCATION AFTER ENGAGEMENT WITH AMA

Squatters residing on the former Avenor Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) Primary land have agreed to voluntarily vacate their site to pave the way for the reconstruction of the school that was demolished due to its deplorable state.

Per the agreement, which was finally reached during a stakeholders' engagement held between the AMA and the affected community members on Tuesday at the project site, affected squatters would not be compensated or provided with alternative housing options as well as any form of support during the transition period.

The Avenor school project, a pivotal educational development in the heart of Accra, is set to transform the landscape of learning for the community. However, the presence of informal settlements in the project's vicinity raised challenges for the reconstruction of the building.

Speaking during the meeting, Coordinating Director of the AMA, Douglas N.K Annoful outlined the benefits the reconstruction of the school would have for the entire community and emphasized the importance of cooperation in realizing the shared vision of an improved educational infrastructure for the people of Avenor electoral area.

He pointed out that the agreement underscored the effectiveness of engaging in open dialogue and collaboration between local authorities and communities adding that the cooperative approach not only addresses the logistical challenges posed by informal settlements but also sets a positive precedent for inclusive urban development practices in the city.

Mr. Annoful said the Assembly could not have begun the project without key stakeholders adding that the MP for Okai Koi South had collaborated with the Regional Coordinating Council to initiate the project, citing the perceived benefits a school would bring to the community.

He appealed to residents to cultivate a spirit of sacrifice and allow the project to roll unopposed insisting that other sub-metros in Accra were willing to grab the opportunity if presented to their leadership.

The leader of the community, Abubakar Abdul Aziz Banda in a remark during the engagement, said the project being introduced into the community was in the right direction as would promote education and foster a spirit of learning and literacy.

"While it is difficult to leave our current homes, we understand the significance of the school project for the future of our community. We appreciate the efforts of the Accra Metropolitan Assembly in considering our needs and ensuring a fair transition for all residents affected by the redevelopment," he said.

He assured that the community would cooperate with the Assembly to ensure the successful completion of the school project.



AMA HOLDS BRIEFING SESSION FOR ATU STUDENTS TOWARDS THE UPCOMING COMPOSTER HACKATHON CONTEST



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The Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) has organised a briefing session for selected students at the Accra Technical University (ATU) to participate in the upcoming Composter Hack-a-ton contest.

The highly anticipated competition scheduled to take place from March 25 to April 12 will require students from the university to deploy their innovative skills in creating wooden composters to aid in the recycling of household organic waste through compost that enriches soil quality for plant growth.

At the end of the competition, selected designs with a flair of creativity will go through the manufacturing process, while the best-performing students will be compensated for their participation and their effort.

Representative in charge of Accra-Paris cooperation at the AMA, Alexiane Zelinsky said "After the contest, we are going to select the more innovative ideas, and the composter will be deployed in the Zero waste street in Accra, and if it works it can be extended and even turn into a business. There will be a selection panel to choose the best design"

"Today is the 13th of March, so it's the general briefing session, and from today you can write down your name on the participation sheet if you're interested in participating. You will have 15 days to design the composter" The Director for Waste Management at the AMA, Engineer Solomon Noi said the competition was part of the Zero Waste street project, a flagship program being piloted by the AMA and supported by the city of Paris to deploy source separation in Accra, and therefore divert recyclable and organic waste from the landfill site.

He said a major contributor to the rising climate issues being experienced in the region was the waste management sector, therefore it was appropriate to implement a strategy that would see a total reduction of residual waste, through diverting plastics and organic waste into recycling and composting.

He intimated that the Assembly had the option to import compost machines from the diasporas however the climatic conditions abroad were different, therefore the competition was a huge opportunity for the students to showcase their skills and creativity.

Engineer Noi appealed to the participants to be extra serious and ensure commitment towards the contest as it was an excellent business venture adding that it was a good platform to gain international recognition.

Acting Vice Chancellor for ATU, Prof Amevi Acakpovi expressed enthusiasm for the competition since it had come at the right time when the school was celebrating its 75th anniversary.

He revealed that the competition was the first of its kind while imploring the students to join the history-making contest piloted by the AMA, capable of leaving a lasting legacy on the school.

He stated that for a design to attract international recognition, it needed to be outstanding and above par, therefore he encouraged the students to work as a team and ask the right questions that would globally add to the good name of the school.



AMA REGISTERS 205 INFORMAL WASTE SECTOR WORKERS FOR FREE 1-YEAR HEALTH, LIFE INSURANCE UNDER AYO GHANA INSURANCE SCHEME

The Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA), with support from C40 Cities, has successfully registered 205 informal waste sector workers under the aYo Ghana Health Insurance Scheme. This exercise aims to demonstrate the importance of social insurance support for building socioeconomic resilience, especially for workers in the informal economy.

This action is part of the AMA's Inclusive Climate Action Programme, in partnership with the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, which began in 2021 and seeks to strengthen collaboration and partnership between the city and the informal waste sector to advance waste optimisation in the city of Accra.

Speaking to the media during the registration event, the Mayor of Accra, Hon. Elizabeth K.T. Sackey, expressed her appreciation for the partnership and emphasised the importance of extending healthcare and social insurance coverage to marginalised communities.

"By registering informal waste sector workers under this health and social insurance scheme for a year, we are not only recognising their invaluable contribution to our city but also ensuring that they have access to the healthcare services they deserve," she stated.

Under the aYo Ghana Health Insurance Scheme, registered informal waste sector workers will have access to a wide range of healthcare services, including medical consultations, diagnostic tests, medications, and emergency care, without bearing any financial burden for one year

Mayor Sackey noted that the registration served as a testament to the city's commitment to building a more just and equitable society for all, including workers in the informal economy. adding that by fostering partnerships and leveraging available resources, the Assembly aims to create a more resilient and inclusive city where all residents have access to quality healthcare services, regardless of their socio-economic status.

She used the opportunity to admonish the informal waste workers to be committed to their work and act as stakeholders in improving the sanitation situation in the communities.

A representative from aYo Intermediaries Ghana Ltd. revealed that the initiative was the first of its kind and encouraged Metropolitan Municipal District Assemblies (MMDAs) to replicate the same. According to him, there was a special package for workers over 70 years old to encourage new workers to join the insurance policy.





5-DAY INCLUSIVE CLIMATE ACTION COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING AND MASTERCLASS OPENS IN ADDIS ABABA

A 5-day Inclusive Climate Action Communications Training and Masterclass has opened today in Addis Ababa as a concerted effort to address the pressing global challenge of climate change.

Hosted by the C40 Cities in collaboration with the City of Addis, the ICA Communications Training is planned for key technical city officials and is expected to equip participating cities, including Accra, with the key knowledge, skills and perspectives required to design and effectively deliver communication strategies.

With a focus on inclusivity and accessibility, the communications training and masterclass is expected to equip participants with tools for policies and programmes that promote informal sector engagement, green jobs, and the nexus between urban informality, just transition, urban resilience and loss and damage.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Gifiti Nadi, Deputy Director for Africa C40 Cities said the ICA Communications Training and Masterclass aimed to boost the capacities of participating cities to communicate on key issues of inclusive climate action delivery, understand the concepts of loss and damage, and strengthen confidence in identifying how cities were already playing a role in the implementation of urban climate resilience.

She noted the events would create a space to share best practices and peer support along with effective communication tools and strategies to build public and political support for sustained inclusive climate action, adding that C40 prioritises the recognition of local governments, who are leading the CHARGE TO DELIVER ACTIONS that build collective urban resilience for vulnerable communities.

Meti Tamrat, Public and International Relations Directorates Director, City of Addis Ababa, in a remark at the formal opening of the 5-day event, emphasised that "as centres of commerce, communication, culture and innovation, cities are the biggest contributors to climate change and, consequently, must play a leading role in climate change mitigation and adaptation. Addis Ababa is doing its part."

In her welcome and opening remarks, C40's Director of Inclusive Climate Action, Jazmin Burgess, stressed the pervasiveness of the climate crisis and applauded cities for taking action in the face of climate-induced loss and damages and developing and implementing inclusive policies and programmes within their cities.

As part of the masterclass, participants would engage in practical exercises, case studies, and group discussions to refine their communication skills and develop tailored strategies to address the unique challenges of loss and damage facing their respective communities.

The 5-day event is expected to culminate in the formulation of action plans and commitments by participants to enhance climate communication efforts and build resilience against climate losses and damages within their spheres of influence.

Other participating cities are Abuja, Accra, Cape Town, Dakar, Dar es Salaam, Freetown, and Et kunai.

ALFRED ASIEDU ADJEI RE-ELECTED PM OF AMA FOR 4TH CONSECUTIVE TERM



The Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA), in a display of confidence and support, has re-elected Hon. Alfred Asiedu Adjei as its Presiding Member (PM) for an unprecedented fourth consecutive term.

This follows a rigorous and transparent voting process held on Monday, March 18th 2024, at the Omanyee Aba Hall of the AMA.

Hon. Alfred Adjei, popularly known as 'Paa Joe', who is also the Assembly member for Avenor Electoral Area, polled 26 'yes' votes out of 29 votes cast in the election conducted by officials of the Electoral Commission to retain his position as PM for the AMA. He polled 2 "no" votes while one vote was rejected by the Electoral Commission.

Mr. Adjei's re-election reaffirms his standing as a seasoned leader and trusted figure within the Accra Metropolitan Assembly. With over a decade of service to the assembly, his tenure has been marked by a steadfast commitment to public service and a dedication to advancing the interests of the residents of Accra.

In an acceptance speech, Mr Asiedu expressed gratitude for the trust and confidence reposed in him by assembly members and pledged to continue serving with dedication, integrity, and transparency to promote good governance and accountability.

"Today marks a momentous occasion in Accra's history as I stand before you for the fourth unprecedented time as the Presiding Member of the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA). I am deeply grateful for this opportunity and the responsibility it entails. I extend my sincere appreciation to the first female Mayor of Accra, breaking a 123-year tradition of male MCE dominance.

I also thank my honourable colleagues for their trust in re-electing me for this important role. Your unwavering support and confidence in my leadership are truly humbling, and I pledge to continue serving with dedication, integrity, and transparency." he said.

He disclosed that his foremost priorities were to enhance collaboration and partnerships with various stakeholders, address challenges, and implement innovative solutions for the benefit of residents in the city.

He disclosed that investments in education, healthcare, transportation, and other essential services would be prioritised investments to enhance the quality of life for all residents of Accra.

He pointed out that the rapid urbanisation and environmental issues demanded immediate attention, hence the need to work together tirelessly to ensure that Accra remained a vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive city for all its residents.

He also used the opportunity to encourage members of the AMA to embody the values of integrity, accountability, and teamwork to contribute to the long-term success and sustainability of the city, while encouraging Assembly members to wholeheartedly support the Mayor to forge a brighter future for Accra.

"I implore all members of the AMA to join me in wholeheartedly supporting the Mayor as we collectively strive to forge a brighter future for Accra. Let us remain steadfast in our commitment to making Accra a beacon of progress and inclusivity, setting an example for the region and the world as a city where everyone can thrive and find belonging," he said.

He also acknowledged the pivotal role of traditional authorities in shaping the social, cultural, and economic landscape of Accra and reaffirmed his unwavering commitment to collaborate closely with the Ga Traditional Council (GTC) under the esteemed guidance of His Royal Majesty, King Tackie Teiko Tsuru II, to propel developmental initiatives aimed at securing a brighter future for the Ga child.

He also appealed to the staff of the AMA to harness their collective expertise and creativity to devise innovative, sustainable, and inclusive solutions to address the myriad challenges confronting the city,

MAYOR OF ACCRA WARNS RESIDENTS AGAINST LITTERING, ILLEGAL DUMPING OF WASTE AS AMA COMPLETES SANITATION COURT

The Chief Executive of the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA), Hon. Elizabeth Sackey, has issued a stern warning to residents in the city to stop littering and dumping refuse into drains or face the full consequences of the law.

According to her, the Assembly has completed its Sanitation Court and would not hesitate to prosecute and hold individuals accountable for compromising the cleanliness of the city.

The Mayor gave the warning when she paid a working visit to communities around the Salaga Market in Bukom to inspect and assess the level of desilting works carried out over the weekend to mitigate the risks of flooding and its associated health hazards when it rains.

The Mayor who was not happy with the volumes of solid waste cleared from the drains, emphasised the importance of maintaining cleanliness within the city, particularly in light of ongoing desilting efforts aimed at improving drainage systems and cautioning residents against littering and illegal dumping.

"Residents must understand the seriousness of their actions... With the completion of the Sanitation Court, those found guilty of littering or illegal dumping will face prosecution. We will not hesitate to hold individuals accountable for compromising the cleanliness of our city," she said.

She urged residents to take responsibility for their waste disposal practices, refrain from polluting drains and public spaces in their communities, and adhere to the AMA sanitation bylaws to avoid being implicated in sanitation-related offences.

She used the opportunity to caution residents against mounting concrete slabs on the drains to ensure proper desilting and reiterated the call for cooperation among all citizens in ensuring a cleaner and healthier Accra for generations to come.

Assembly Member for Nmlitsagonno Electoral Area, Boi Issah Quartey expressed appreciation to the Mayor and her team for spearheading the clean-up exercise, adding that the concerted efforts put forth by the AMA had not only enhanced the cleanliness of their surroundings but also bolstered community pride and unity.

"As the Assembly Member for Nmlitsagonno, I am particularly grateful for the collaborative approach taken by our first female Mayor of Accra and her administration in addressing the pressing issue of waste management... The success of the clean-up exercise serves as a testament to what can be achieved when government officials and community members work hand in hand towards a common goal," he said.

"I urge all residents of Mlilita Gor noo to remain vigilant in maintaining cleanliness in our community. Let us take ownership of our surroundings and strive to uphold sanitation standards daily. Together, we can build a cleaner, healthier, and more vibrant Mlilita Gor noo for current and future generations to enjoy," he added.

Community spokesperson, Larley Ayi Laryea encouraged fellow residents to continue supporting and actively participate in initiatives aimed at promoting cleanliness and environmental conservation.

"Let us build upon the momentum generated by the recent clean-up exercise and strive to make our community a shining example of cleanliness and civic pride. Together, we can achieve our shared goal of creating a cleaner and more vibrant community for generations to come," he said.

Accompanying the Mayor were the coordinating Director of the AMA, Douglas N.K Annoful, Director of Finance, Mr. Abeiku Amissah, Director of Ashiedu Keteke Sub-Metro, Mercy Odoi, Director for Waste Management, and Solomon Noi among others.



AMA UNVEILS STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS CLIMATE-INDUCED LOSSES AND DAMAGES

The Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) has announced strategies to fortify its resilience against climate change and safeguard frontline communities from devastating losses and damages.

The strategies that aim to confront the challenges posed by climate change include enhancing infrastructure resilience, developing early warning systems for informal settlements, and scaling mayoral advocacy programmes.

Head of Public Affairs at the AMA, Gilbert Nii Ankrah, disclosed this to journalists at the end of a 5-day Inclusive Climate Action Communications Training and Master-class organised by the C40 Cities in collaboration with the City of Addis in Ethiopia.

He emphasised the Assembly's commitment to provide proactive measures to mitigate climate-induced losses and damages.

"Climate change poses a significant threat to our city's development and the well-being of our residents, and by adopting these strategies, we are not only safeguarding our infrastructure and communities but also laying the foundation for a more resilient and sustainable future," he said.

He said recognising the vulnerability of Accra's infrastructure to extreme weather events, such as flooding, the Assembly plans to invest in robust infrastructure, including the upgrade of drainage systems, reinforcing buildings, and integrating green infrastructure solutions to mitigate flooding and erosion.

"In addition to infrastructure upgrades, the AMA hopes to strengthen its early warning systems and disaster preparedness measures. With climate change intensifying the frequency and severity of extreme weather patterns in Accra, timely and accurate warnings are

critical for minimising loss of life and property damage, especially in informal settlements. With this, we aim to enhance our monitoring and forecasting capabilities, by establishing community-based early warning systems," he said.

He explained that by scaling mayoral advocacy programmes, the Assembly hoped to foster collaboration between cities to share best practices and resources, engage more stakeholders, and advocate for policy changes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, enhance resilience to climate impacts, and promote sustainable development across the city.

He added that the AMA acknowledges that frontline communities were disproportionately affected by climate change impacts, and was committed to empowering residents with knowledge and resources to adapt and cope with environmental challenges through community engagements, the promotion of climate-smart agricultural practices, training on disaster preparedness and response, as well as facilitating community-led initiatives to build resilience.

He said that the implementation of the strategies would be crucial in building a resilient city that could withstand future environmental shocks and protect its most vulnerable populations from the effects of climate-induced loss and damage.

Among the key officials of the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) who attended the master class in Addis Ababa was Mr Richard Kwame Oduro, Head of the Development Planning Unit renowned for his proactive leadership in implementing sustainable urban development initiatives and resilience-building projects within the city.

With a focus on inclusivity and accessibility, the communications training and masterclass equipped participants from Abuja, Accra, Cape Town, Dakar, Dar es Salaam, Freetown, and Et kunai with tools for policies and programmes that promote informal sector engagement, green jobs, and the nexus between urban informality, just transition, urban resilience, and loss and damage.





C40 DELEGATION INSPECTS SOLID WASTE SEPARATION AND COMPOSTING PROJECT SITE IN ACCRA

A delegation from the C40 Cities Finance Facility (CFF) management and donor group has paid a working visit to the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA). The objective of the visit is to provide the CFF Project Advisory Group (PAG) members with insights into how the projects are prepared and structured on the ground.

The CFF project, sponsored by the governments of the UK, Germany, France and the United States is providing Technical, financial and Capacity Building Support to the city of Accra to prepare a finance-ready project for the introduction of Waste Source Separation and the construction of a compost plant for Accra. The project among other things seeks to increase waste recycling and composting, reduce waste disposal and ultimately reduce GHG emissions from landfills and open burning as well as generate jobs and improve work security and safety for the workers in the waste sector.

The delegation led by a representative of the donor group, Ms Ingrina Ingrina Shieh (UK government, through FCDO) included Hajo Junge (Co-Director, GIZ), Ingrid Simon (Co-Director, C40 Cities), Henri Gebauer, Head of City of Operation at CFF, Bryn Boyce, Head of Regional Engagement, C40 Cities Finance Facility, Maxine Mueller, Head of Doner Partnership, Tangmar Marmon, Energy and Sustainability Cluster Coordinator, GIZ and Abraham Afful, Senior Project Advisor for Accra.

Before the site inspection, the delegation paid a courtesy call to the Mayor of Accra, to discuss the progress and challenges of the solid waste source separation and composting project, which was aimed at revolutionizing waste management practices in the city.

Speaking on behalf of the C40 Cities Finance Facility, Ms Ingrina Shieh highlighted the importance of close collaboration between the CFF and local authorities in driving sustainable urban development agendas.

"Our visit to Accra reaffirms the CFF's commitment to supporting cities in addressing pressing environmental challenges, particularly in the area of waste management. By working closely with the AMA we aim to maximize the impact of our projects and contribute to building resilient and sustainable cities," he said.

He commended Accra's dedication to environmental initiatives and highlighted the importance of their visit to mitigating environmental challenges and promoting sustainable development.

He pledged support to climate action projects globally and was happy Accra had benefited from the CFF.

"Accra serves as a beacon of hope for sustainable urban development, and we are committed to supporting its endeavours," he said

The visit he said underscored the commitment of the CFF to ensure effective implementation and monitoring of projects aimed at enhancing waste management practices in the city of Accra.

The Mayor of Accra, Hon Elizabeth Sackey who welcomed the delegation expressed gratitude for the ongoing support of the C40 Cities Finance Facility in advancing Accra's waste management initiatives, highlighting the importance of collaborative partnerships in driving meaningful change.

She reaffirmed the city's commitment to fostering sustainable urban development and environmental stewardship and emphasised the significance of the project in advancing sustainable waste management practices and fostering environmental resilience.

"The solid waste source separation and composting project in Accra exemplifies the transformative potential of innovative solutions in addressing urban challenges to mitigate the effects of climate change," she said. The CFF project is jointly implemented by the German Development Cooperation and C40 CITIES.

AMA BOSS TOURS SUB METROS; INSPECTS PROGRESS OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

The Mayor of Accra, Hon. Elizabeth Kwatsoe Sackey, has paid a working visit to some communities in the metropolis to inspect the progress of work on the construction of some infrastructure development in the education, health, and sanitation sectors.

Among the projects were a sanitation court, to prosecute sanitation offences and enhance the city's efforts towards maintaining cleanliness and sanitation standards, a school project at Avenor, a 3-story 18-unit classroom block and a 3-unit nursery block with a computer laboratory, library, laboratories, and playground for the Independence Avenue Cluster of Schools, a two-story medical storage facility at the Mamprobi Hospital as well as an ultra-modern abattoir at Jamestown.

Mayor Sackey, in an interview with the media after the tour, emphasised the importance of these infrastructure projects in driving socio-economic development and improving the quality of life for residents.

She expressed satisfaction with the progress and reiterated the city's commitment to completing these projects within the stipulated timelines to benefit city dwellers.

She pointed out that the establishment of a dedicated sanitation court in the AMA reflects the city's commitment to addressing sanitation challenges through the enforcement of its byelaws, adding that any individual caught littering and dumping refuse indiscriminately would be dealt with by the law.

She noted the construction of the Avenor School project, also aimed at enhancing educational facilities, improving access to quality education, and providing conducive learning environments for all children of school-going age in the city.

Touching on the two-story medical storage facility at the Mamprobi Hospital, the Mayor said the project sought to, among other things, support the healthcare infrastructure in the city, providing vital aid for efficient medical supply management and storage.

Mayor Sackey reaffirmed the city's commitment to prioritise infrastructure development initiatives that directly impact the lives of residents, adding that with a steadfast commitment, the AMA remains poised to achieve its vision of a fair and resilient city with equal socio-economic opportunities for all.

She highlighted that the decision to construct a modern abattoir in Accra comes in response to longstanding challenges faced by the city's meat processing industry, including inadequate facilities, outdated infrastructure, and poor sanitation practices

"Considering the increasing urban population and rising demands for meat products in Accra, there is a pressing need to modernize the sector to ensure compliance with international standards and best practices. The new abattoir we are constructing in Jamestown will revolutionise meat processing operations in Accra by incorporating state-of-the-art facilities and technologies.

It will be designed to meet stringent hygiene requirements, with dedicated areas for slaughtering, processing, and packaging, all adhering to strict quality control measures," she said.

The first female Mayor of the City of Accra also used the opportunity to engage community members and stakeholders, regarding the ongoing projects, among others.

The Mayor was accompanied by a Deputy Director of Administration, Samuel Tutuani, officials from the Works Department, and other members of management.



AMA BOSS FACILITATES RESOLUTION IN ACCRA BREWERY MARKET REDEVELOPMENT DISPUTE



The Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) and traders at Accra Brewery Market have agreed to a proposed redevelopment plan to modernise the market through a private partnership agreement.

The agreement was reached on Tuesday, April 2, at the end of an engagement with the President of the Greater Accra Markets Association, the traditional authority, the leadership of the market, and the AMA to address ongoing tensions surrounding the market's redevelopment.

Highlights of the agreement include the construction of modern stalls and additional sheds while ensuring adequate support for affected traders.

Speaking during the meeting, the Mayor of Accra, Hon Elizabeth Kwatsoe Sackey emphasised the significance of the resolution, stating, "Today's outcome exemplifies the power of dialogue and collaboration in driving inclusive development. By working together, we have overcome challenges and paved the way for progress."

She underscored the AMA's commitment to sustainable urban development and economic growth, adding that the redevelopment of the market was expected to enhance the market's infrastructure, accommodate more traders, improve trading conditions, and contribute to the overall revitalization of the area.

The Mayor asserted that the Assembly would not hesitate to enforce the law to evict any trader who fails to adhere to the agreements reached, to make way for the construction of the proposed stalls.

This she said was to maintain order and expedite the implementation of the redevelopment plan, prioritising the city's developmental objectives.

President of the Greater Accra Markets Association, Hon. Mercy Naa Afrowa Needjan narrated how the traders came to her for help over the decision to be evicted from a piece of land they have been occupying for decades for trading activities and commended the Mayor for the commitment to resolving the issues surrounding the redevelopment of Brewery Market.

A member of the market noted that the assurance of support for displaced traders and the commitment to providing additional sheds during construction were crucial steps towards ensuring a smooth transition.

Present at the meeting were; the Coordinating Director of AMA, Mr, Douglas Annoful, President of the Greater Accra Markets Association, Hon. Mercy Naa Afrowa and members of the association.

AMA STAFF UNDERGO TWO-DAY CAPACITY STRENGTHENING WORKSHOP ON DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT DATA PLATFORM

A two-day training and capacity-building workshop is being organised for staff of the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) at the City Hall to enhance their understanding of the District Development Data Platform (DDDP).

DDDP a web-based data capturing, monitoring and evaluation platform developed to improve database management at the local level as well as, track track project/programme implementation on service delivery. The DDDP digitizes the district's development data and archives it for planning and management purposes.

The event which is spearheaded by the Planning and Coordinating Unit of the AMA and under the auspices of the Ministry of Local Government kicked off on Tuesday with an intensive training session and drew participants including Departmental/Unit Heads, Sub-Metro Directors, Head of Central Administration, Deputy Directors as well as representatives of the various departments/units.

Information Technology (IT) Programmer at the Regional Coordinating Council (RCC), Micheal Asore said the software was precisely designed to capture data on the day-to-day activities, projects and programs embarked on by the Assembly.

"It is in to help us gather data on the activities of the MMDAs... all activities in terms of sanitation, projects, meetings anything that relates to the Assembly, there is a tracker that captures that information" he mentioned.

He indicated that the software was similar to the annual District Performance Tool (DPAT) assessment scheme with the end goal of improving efficiency and keeping staff on their toes to enhance service delivery.

Mr Asore revealed that before introducing the technology, there was an issue with security on the site, however, now it has been resolved.

"Once you have internet, you are good to go... at first, there was an issue with a secure site but now it has been solved" he stated.

He expressed confidence that by the closure of the workshop, participants would be able to navigate their way on the software adding that he expected staff to maximize efficiency and grasp the system to generate real-time reports.

Director of Development Planning at the AMA, Richard Kwame Oduro expressed optimism for the training but bemoaned the number of attendees for the workshop.

He encouraged key directors in the Assembly to create ample time from their tight schedules and join the gathering insisting that their appearance was enough motivation to fuel seriousness among the staff of the AMA.

"It is an app that is going to help all departments to report especially on whatever they are doing be it physical projects and non-physical projects like programs, he explained"

In his final words, he concluded that the DDDP was one of the indicators that would be assessed during the annual DPAT assessment to track district performance to improve performance and service delivery.



MAYOR OF ACCRA VISITS DOGO BEACH FIRE SCENE; ASSURES VICTIMS OF SUPPORT

The Mayor of Accra, Hon. Elizabeth Sackey has paid an impromptu visit to Dogo Beach, a temporary fishing bay for the fisher folk at Jamestown, following a fire outbreak this afternoon.

The Mayor's visit aimed to express solidarity and offer support to the affected community members amidst the tragic incident.

The beachfront stretch, located opposite the Fire Service Training School and colloquially known as Dogo Beach, has been serving as a temporary refuge for the fisherfolk who were relocated due to the ongoing construction of the Jamestown Fishing Harbour.

Speaking during the visit on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, the Mayor expressed her deep sympathies to those affected by the fire outbreak and acknowledged the resilience of the fisher folk while assuring them of the city's unwavering support in their time of need

"I am deeply saddened by the unfortunate incident at Dogo Beach. My heart goes out to all the individuals and families impacted by this tragedy...Rest assured, the city is mobilising all available resources to provide immediate assistance and support to the affected residents," she said.

The Mayor who expressed empathy towards the affected residents, assured them of the Assembly's commitment to establishing a comprehensive compensation plan to alleviate the financial burden faced by those impacted by the fire.

She emphasised the importance of community solidarity in times of crisis and called on residents to come together to support one another during the recovery process.

She urged residents to be vigilant, and responsible and take proactive measures to reduce fire hazards within their homes, emphasising the importance of minimising fire loads to mitigate the risk of fire outbreaks in communities.

Addressing concerns regarding the delay in firefighters' arrival at Dogo Beach, Assistant Divisional Officer at the Ghana National Fire Service, Christabel Love clarified that the team had been actively engaged in extinguishing another blaze that had engulfed Korle Bu and its surrounding areas.

She said firefighters counted over 800 wooden structures meant for commercial and domestic purposes razed in the fire and used the opportunity to advise residents to reduce the amount of fire loads in their apartments to reduce the chance of fire breaking out in the communities.



ITALIAN PRESIDENT PAYS HOMAGE TO GHANA'S FIRST PRESIDENT

His Excellency Sergio Mattarella, the President of Italy, has visited the Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park in Accra, Ghana, to pay homage to Ghana's first President.

President Mattarella is on a 2-day visit to Ghana to strengthen the diplomatic ties between Ghana and Italy and discuss issues related to education, energy, and security.

Accompanied by the Mayor of Accra, the Minister of State at the Local Government Ministry Osei Bonsu Amoah, daughter of the first President, Samia Nkrumah as well as a delegation of Italian officials and diplomats, President Mattarella walked through the fountain and laid a wreath in front of the giant statue of Dr Nkrumah, after which he toured the Mausoleum and museum, housing the remains of Dr Nkrumah and his wife Fatima, personal effects, publications, and pictures showing his life history, respectively.

Before the wreath-laying to honour the contributions of the late president to Ghanaian independence and his role in shaping the course of African history, President Mattarella toured the Freedom Hall, where a state vehicle used by the former President, a vintage Cadillac, had been parked.

Speaking after the visit, the Mayor of Accra, Hon. Elisabeth Sackey reiterated that the memorial park stands as a testament to the struggle for independence and the visionary leadership of Nkrumah, whose legacy continues to inspire all.

President Mattarella's presence, she noted, underscored the importance of preserving history and honouring the contributions of great leaders like Nkrumah, whose vision and dedication paved the way for progress and development in Ghana and beyond.

Mayor Sackey extended his appreciation to President Mattarella and the Italian delegation for the visit and their commitment to deepening ties with Ghana.



MAYOR OF ACCRA, NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR VISIT NEWLY CONSTRUCTED CHILD DAYCARE CENTRE FOR MIGRANT FAMILIES

The Mayor of Accra, Hon. Elizabeth Kwatsoe Sackey accompanied by the Norwegian Ambassador to Ghana, Her Excellency Ingrid Mollestad has paid a working visit to the recently inaugurated state-of-the-art child day care centre situated in the heart of Old Fadama.

The purpose of the visit was for the ambassador to familiarise herself with the project, and inspect its modern amenities to support the city in similar endeavours.

Constructed under the auspices of the Mayor's Migration Council's Global Cities Fund and financed by the Robert Bosch Foundation, the single-story child care centre symbolises a collaborative effort aimed at addressing the challenges faced by migrant families, particularly those working in the informal waste sector.

The centre is expected to provide a nurturing and conducive environment for children between the ages of six months to three years.

Speaking during the visit, Mayor Sackey expressed gratitude to all stakeholders involved in the project, highlighting the importance of such initiatives in fostering inclusivity and addressing the needs of vulnerable populations within the city.

"This daycare centre represents a significant milestone in our efforts to create a more equitable and compassionate city," remarked the Mayor.

"It will serve as a haven of learning, care, and growth for the children of migrant families, providing them with the support they need to thrive," she added.

The project manager of the newly constructed child day care centre, Bernard Boakye who led the Mayor of Accra and the Norwegian Ambassador on a comprehensive tour of the facility, highlighted its modernity and reiterated the commitment to providing high-quality care and support to migrant families.

"With the support of local and international partners, the centre is poised to make a meaningful difference in the lives of children and families, paving the way for a brighter future for all," he said.

The centre, constructed by City Plus Limited, boasts age-appropriate classrooms, a spacious play area, and designated spaces for meals and rest, ensuring the holistic development and well-being of the children.

MAYOR OF ACCRA DONATES FOOD ITEMS TO MUSLIMS FOR EID AL-FITR FESTIVITIES

The Mayor of Accra, Hon. Elizabeth K. T. Sackey, has presented a variety of food items to the Muslim community in the metropolis to support the celebration of the 2024 Eid al-Fitr festivities.

The presentation, which took place on Thursday 11th April 2024 at Accra Academy when she joined the Muslim community to offer Eid prayers, included staples such as rice, cooking oil, and other essential provisions.

Speaking to the media after the presentation, Mayor Sackey emphasised the importance of peace, solidarity, and unity in the city, and acknowledged the contributions of the Muslim community to the development of Accra.

She expressed gratitude for the successful completion of the 30 days of fasting, offered her blessings to the Muslim community, and emphasised the importance of maintaining peace, especially as the nation was in an election year.

"Peace be unto you. This morning, I want to express my gratitude for the peace we have in Ghana. We thank God that He has guided you through these 30 days of fasting, and I know that God will continue to bless us all. As we celebrate this festival, I urge you to maintain peace and harmony. The nation needs your support, and we want everyone to enjoy this time, particularly as we are in an election year. This election year calls for peace, and that's exactly what we are praying for. God bless you all," she said.

"As I stand here this morning, I want to commend you for the great work you have been doing. On behalf of Dr. Mahamudu Bawumia, I want to appreciate your efforts," she added.

Local Muslim leaders who witnessed the presentation expressed their gratitude to the Mayor and the Accra Metropolitan Assembly for the gesture, stating that the support would go a long way in helping the community during the holy month.

Ramadan is traditionally known for its emphasis on charity, with individuals, groups, organisations, and businesses observing the holy month through various acts of giving.

The 30-day period of Ramadan concluded on April 11 with the Eid al-Fitr celebration.

Eid al-Fitr, also known as the "festival of breaking the fast," is a time for large feasts and joyous gatherings among Muslims worldwide.



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AMA ISSUES 4-WEEK ULTIMATUM TO SQUATTERS TO VACATE LAND AT MAMPROBI FOR NEW STALL PROJECT

The Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) has issued a four-week ultimatum to some 29 squatters occupying a parcel of land at Mamprobi Sempe to vacate the site to pave the way for the construction of stalls.

The decision was reached on Friday after a series of discussions with the squatters, at the AMA office to address any concerns and misunderstandings related to their removal from the site.

The Mayor of Accra, Hon. Elizabeth Kwatsoe Sackey who chaired the meeting, said the new stalls, when completed, would enhance the local economy by providing spaces for small businesses and vendors, to boost economic activity in the area, adding that the construction of the project aligns with the city's broader development goals and efforts to modernise infrastructure.

She assured the squatters of efforts to assist them with a token of GH1000 each to help them transport their belongings to alternative locations.

She disclosed that to support the squatters during this transition, management of the AMA had decided to give each squatter the first choice over other applicants who may express interest and at a reduced rate.

She mentioned that the Ablekuma South sub-metro would also facilitate the permitting process for any squatters to settle down.

" We must help in developing Accra, we want to uplift the development and construct stalls in every community to boost economic activities. This is expected to boost economic activities in the area," she said.

She urged the squatters to work together during this transition period to ensure a smooth process while thanking the former Mayor and Member of Parliament for the Ablekuma South constituency for his support and input during this process.

The former Mayor, Hon Alfred Okoe Vanderpuije expressed gratitude to the Mayor for her willingness to engage in open and honest dialogue with the squatters, adding that her listening ear and collaborative approach had been instrumental.

The squatters expressed concerns about the 4-week ultimatum given to them to relocate to another place to ply their trade and used the opportunity to appeal for a 6-month extension to provide them ample time to relocate.

They promised to remain committed and abide by the decision reached at the City hall to actualize the vision of the AMA in transforming the parcel of Land at Mamprobi Sempe into a modern facility.

STAY SAFE

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In case of an emergency, contact the following numbers:



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