



**INSTITUTE OF
STATISTICAL, SOCIAL
AND ECONOMIC
RESEARCH (ISSER)**

College of Humanities, University of Ghana

**ANNUAL REPORT
2015 - 2016**

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ABOUT ISSER

Who we are

ISSER is a leading research institute that is committed to carrying out research and training that promote the socio-economic development of Ghana and Africa. Established in 1962, ISSER has evolved into one of West Africa's most respected institutes of research, known for applying academic skills to real-world challenges.

The Institute's achievements in social science research, its high standard training programmes and impact of advocacy drives have earned it a strong reputation and an enviable network of relationships in both national and international circles.

VISION

To be recognised globally for promoting knowledge for development through authoritative policy research, training and advocacy.

MISSION

ISSER's mission is to carry out activities that would promote the socio-economic development of Ghana in particular and Africa in general. Specifically, the institute is expected to undertake research in the social sciences and training that:

- Have immediate bearing on the problems and the development needs of Ghana in particular and Africa in general;
- Relate to special assignments for government and other agencies as a way of providing guidance, support and advice;
- Are in keeping with the academic purposes of the University especially in relation to advanced teaching, enriching and adding to the teaching and effectiveness of institutional programmes in the social sciences;
- Serve to monitor and evaluate the effects of development policies, projects and programmes both in terms of their objectives and general consequences.

OUR VALUES

Our values are fundamental to all activities and interactions, and are to describe the ethos and character of ISSER. These are traits that staff will aspire to and will ensure that everyone acts and behaves in a manner that supports the realisation of the institute's goals.



TEAMWORK

We will leverage each individual's unique expertise to achieve the best results and respect the contributions of all.



CREDIBILITY

We will be thorough and sincere in all our work to ensure the accuracy and integrity of our outputs.



RESOURCEFULNESS

We will push ourselves to develop solutions in our work and continuously seek new opportunities.



RESPONSIVENESS

We will respond proactively to the changing dynamics and needs of our environment.



COMMITMENT

We will act in the best interest of the institute, holding ourselves accountable for our roles



**Statement from the Director
Prof. Felix Ankomah Asante**

The year 2015/16 was absolutely remarkable. It was one that exuded a sense of pride to know that the Institute made and it is certainly making great waves not only in our motherland but on the international landscape.

ISSER hit the world stage with an outstanding feat of being amongst the top 10 global most transparent Think-Tanks. For Africa we topped them all with a five-star ranking and this was adjudged by Transparify.

On the national front, ISSER was the toast of many when it launched its flagship report ‘The State of the Ghanaian Economy Report 2015 (SGER, 2015). But these accolades were as a result of hard work and untiring sacrifices of all and in particular researchers.

The three divisions - Statistics and Survey, Social and Economics - had amazing reports to present as captured in this annual report. It showed how measured researchers are up to their tasks and lifting the image of the Institute.

Since the commissioning of the Measuring, Learning and Evaluation (MLE) Unit, there have been lots of activities and the West African region has been the beneficiary. Internally, the Unit has some success stories to tell.

These achievements, notwithstanding, we are focused on achieving our strategic goals as enunciated in our strategic goals for the period 2014 – 2019.

On Teaching Programmes, we congratulate the three students from the third and fourth batches of the PhD programme who defended their theses and successfully graduated from the University. They are:

Dr. Antoinette Cecilia Tsiboe-Darko, Dr. Emmanuel Anyang Abeka and Dr. John Abebrese Boateng.

I wish to acknowledge the immense work of all staff of the Institute, and to urge them on to work much harder for the progress and prosperity of the institute and the University of Ghana.

Our invaluable thanks go to our partners and collaborators who in diverse ways have supported and continue to support the institute. Our thanks also go to the University of Ghana for creating the enabling environment for the work of the institute.

Let us continue to work as a team and pursue excellence at all times. We have raised the bar and cannot come below. May the Good Lord bless our collective effort.

“ We pride ourselves in working as a team with such motivated, committed and efficient manpower”



STATEMENTS FROM DIVISION HEADS

Economics Division



Dr. Charles Ackah
Senior Research Fellow/Head,
Economics Division

In the year under review, the Division successfully completed and launched the 2015 SGER. It was launched by the Vice-Chancellor on 27th September, 2016. The event was patronised by people from within and outside the university community. The launch was covered by the print, electronic and social media.

The Division competed and won many bids amongst which is the study to conduct a Consumer Satisfaction Survey for the National Communications Authority: The full draft report has been submitted for comments.

The Division was involved in teaching Survey Research Methods and Data Management and Analysis during the 2016 short courses session. The processes for writing SGER 2016 have started in earnest. Chapters have been assigned to the respective authors. We expect to launch the 2016 Report in 2017.

Following the launch, we plan to undertake a road show to one of the regions for dissemination and engagement with the local people on the perils of the State of the Ghanaian Economy.

In our quest to enhance the efficiency of the Economic Division Team, we expect Dr. Richmond Atta-Ankomah, a newly appointed Research Fellow, to join the Division from December 1, 2016.

Social Division



Dr. Nana Akua Anyidoho
Senior Research Fellow/Head
Social Division

The Social Division produces rigorous interdisciplinary research covering education, employment, health, land and housing, agriculture, energy, the environment, urbanisation, and youth and gender studies, among others. Through research using a range of methods, including qualitative tools and questionnaire-based surveys, the Social Division brings new insights into policy debates on social development. The division also has expertise in training, in research design, qualitative methodology, project cycle management, proposal and report writing.

In the year under review, the Social Division began preparation for the third volume of the Ghana Social Development Outlook (GSDO). The GSDO is a biennial publication that examines the state of social development in Ghana and offers policy prescriptions. All ten members of the division are involved in writing chapters of the GSDO, which cover various sectors (health, education, employment, housing, governance, water and sanitation, energy and the environment). GSDO 2016 will cover the period from 2012 to 2016 and will be released in 2017.

The division also coordinated two short courses in May and June 2016—Research Methodology and Report Writing and Project Cycle Management. Members of the division were instructors for various modules of these courses. The feedback was very positive; the participants were engaged and their final group presentation demonstrated the extent of knowledge they had acquired from the course.

In addition to these division-wide activities, Social Division members carry out their individual research, teaching and publication.

Statistics and Survey Division



Dr. Isaac Akoto Osei
Senior Research Fellow/Head,
Statistics & Survey Division

The Division continues to build and strengthen the capacity of ISSER to conduct efficient impact evaluation studies and improve its general preparedness on quantitative research methods in Ghana and the West African sub-region. Three main activities were done towards achieving the above objectives: provision of sampling and other statistical advice to different units at ISSER, offering of short courses on statistical applications, and training of University of Ghana PhD students and governmental agencies on special statistical methods.

The Division also developed the Measurement Learning and Evaluation (MLE) Unit at ISSER further and used it to support research and international research partnership efforts of the Institute.

The Unit was incepted in November, 2013 and has made significant progress towards achieving the agreed milestones. ISSER now has a functional MLE Unit and the initiative has strengthened the capacity of the institute to organise research based on surveys in Ghana and four other West African countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria) more efficiently.

The Unit has two MLE advisors with general oversight from the Director of ISSER who doubles as the Project Coordinator for the Unit. Additionally, the Unit has a Business Manager, an Assistant Business Manager, Operations Manager, Assistant Operations Manager and three Graduate Research Assistants.



THE MEASURING LEARNING AND EVALUATION (MLE) Unit: Major Activities Undertaken

Set Up

The seven-room office space assigned to the MLE Unit by ISSER has been fully set up with appropriate security features such as burglar proofing and metal security doors. The seven rooms comprise of three offices, a conference room, a server room, a GIS room and a training lab. The server room is fully fitted with ultra-modern servers and accessories. Apart from the biometric accessibility (to track movement in and out) of the place, two servers, a rack to mount the servers, one 10kVa UPS, two 5kVa, external storage tape drive, connection cables have all been secured and mounted.



MLE Unit

A fire suppression system has been fully installed to help prevent any fire outbreak in the room as well as three CCTV cameras placed at vantage points to enable 24-hour surveillance of the server room to monitor what goes on in the room. Additionally, the servers have been configured with VMWare version 6 (software for the servers) with all machines (netbooks/tablets/winpads/laptops) configured to join the domain so as to enable communication between the server and any particular machine at any time. Now, data collected on the field with any machine can easily be sent to the server for use or keeps. In addition to this, the training lab has been fully furnished and is in use. Apart from the 4.5kWp Connected Solar PV System already completed and in use by the Unit, a 4.6kWp Solar PV System has also been added.

The Unit was formally inaugurated on 29th January, 2016. Some dignitaries at the inauguration were Dr. Elvis Fraser, Senior Program Officer for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and Dr. David Ameyaw – Director for Strategy, Monitoring & Evaluation in Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). The audience watched a video clip on the Unit after which the Unit was commissioned by the Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. Ernest Aryeetey.

The MLE Unit provided a number of public good services in the form of capacity building and regional partnerships to the wider university community, governmental agencies and for

partners within the West African sub-region. This network of faculty in other universities in the sub-region and workers of development organisations was created by the Unit. The Unit also provided the following services:

1. PROVISION OF COMMERCIAL MLE SERVICES

The Unit has provided expertise and services on some projects since its inception. These services include; designing of CAPI, design and revision of questionnaires, training of enumerators, fieldwork coordination, data collection and analysis and report writing.

During the 2015/2016 academic year, the MLE Unit provided technical and project management support for the following 11 projects;

An Impact Evaluation of Inoculants Usage on Farmer Yields and Farm Incomes In Ghana, 2014-2017

ISSER, in conjunction with the University for Development Studies (UDS) were contracted to evaluate the impact of the inoculant technology use on crop yields and incomes of farmers. The team assessed which form of information dissemination (radio listening clubs and mobile videos) is cost effective for the adaption of the inoculant technology.

The MLE Unit undertook the CAPI design, trained field personnel on CAPI and supervised the fieldwork.

Does Reinforcing Agro-Dealer Network Improve Access and Use of Agriculture Inputs by Farmers in Niger?

Contribution à l'Éducation de Base (CEB) in partnership with Association des Distributeurs des Produits Phytosanitaires du Niger (ADPHYTO), and with funding from the Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), implemented a project that aimed at reinforcing agro-dealers network in Niger.

The intervention aimed at improving smallholder farmers' access to and adoption of agricultural inputs in three regions of Niger. ISSER was contracted by the International Initiative for Impact Evaluations (3ie) to evaluate the impact of the project on key outcomes of interest. The study analysed the impact of building the capacity of agro-dealers on smallholder farmers' access to and use of agricultural inputs; as well as the impact of credit on smallholder farmers' use of agricultural inputs. The Unit undertook the CAPI design, trained field personnel on CAPI, collated, cleaned and analysed the data.

Impact of Reminders of Post-Harvest Aggregation Services and Timely Provision of Price Information on Smallholder Farmers' Market Power and Incomes in Mali

In 2013, the Malian Association of Awakening on Sustainable Development (AMEDD) received a grant from the Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) to implement interventions in Sikasso (Mali's largest grain producing region). The interventions were expected to help address constraints of limited agricultural inputs, poor post-harvest management, poor organisation of farmers, limited credit access and underdeveloped output markets. The overall expected outcome of the intervention was to ensure and promote smallholder farm incomes in the region. ISSER was contracted by the International Initiative for Impact Evaluations (3ie) to conduct an impact evaluation of some components of the project, mainly to assess the impact of mobile phone reminders of post-harvest aggregation services and timely provision of price information on smallholder farmers' market power. The MLE Unit undertook CAPI design, trained field personnel on CAPI, supervised fieldwork, collated, cleaned and analysed the data.

Social Impact Governance and Accountability Project

ISSER was sub-contracted by Social Impact (SI) to conduct an impact evaluation of USAID/ Ghana's Strengthening Accountability Mechanisms

(G-SAM) programme. The evaluation has been implemented over a two-year period and comprises of three (3) discrete data collection activities; namely baseline, mid-line, and endline survey and quantitative data collection activities. The purpose of the study was to assess accountability relationships between district government and citizens as well as the delivery of local capital projects. The MLE Unit undertook CAPI design and trained field personnel on CAPI..

Quantitative Baseline Survey for LEAP 1000

The survey collected data on various households' living conditions that helped provide understanding of the effects cash transfer programmes have on reducing poverty and vulnerability of poor households with pregnant women and infants and the implications it might have on child health. Information on household consumption behaviour, education, maternal and child health, nutritional outcomes, households' use of preventive and curative care services, infant and young child feeding, and diet diversity. The MLE Unit undertook the designing of CAPI, data management and trained enumerators.

An Evaluation of the Impacts of a Soil Fertility Training Program on Farmer Productivity in the Volta Region of Ghana

The evaluation was jointly undertaken by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and ISSER. The project aimed at promoting Africa's scale up of Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM) practices in the Volta Region and ultimately improve the incomes of smallholder farmers.

The project specifically promotes the sustainable intensification of maize and rice cultivation using the provision of production inputs, information on ISFM practices, and marketing services for members of farmer-based organizations (FBOs) in selected districts of the Volta Region. The baseline data collection included a total of 1,333 households in 139 communities.

The MLE Unit revised the questionnaires, recruited and supervised the enumerators.

An Evaluation of the Community Action for Improving Farmer-Saved Seed Yam (Cay-Seed)

With funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), the Community Action for improving Farmer-saved Seed Yam (CAY-Seed) project which was a Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)- Crops Research Institute-led project was initiated.

The focus of the project was to improve the quality of smallholder farmer-saved seed yam and its productivity at community level through positive selection, integrated crop management practices to control viruses and nematodes, and capacity building for increased food security and poverty reduction in Ghana and Nigeria. ISSER was tasked with evaluating the impact of the interventions.

The Institute carried out baseline and mid-line surveys on the project and these were carried out in Ghana and Nigeria.

The MLE Unit undertook the designing of CAPI, rented out tablets/netbooks, trained enumerators and was in charge of the data management.

Endline Survey of the Impact Evaluation of the Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) Programme in Ghana

This was a two-year research project that was intended to evaluate the impact of the Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP) by the Partnership for Child Development through a cluster-randomized control trial. This study began with two baseline studies in 2013 and 2014 and ended with an endline survey that was conducted in January 2016 for which ISSER was responsible.

Green Innovation Centres for the Agriculture and Food Sector (GIZ)

The German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) initiated the special initiative “One World, no Hunger” to improve the income and food and nutrition security of households in a number of emerging and developing countries. Under this umbrella, the programme ‘Innovation Centres for the Agriculture and Food sector’ (GIAE) was implemented in 13 countries with the aim of raising income and employment and improving food security. The programme targeted smallholder farmers and small and medium-sized enterprises by improving the innovation transfer along various agricultural value chains. The programme was implemented in 13 countries, namely Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, Togo, Tunisia, Zambia and Ghana.

The study compiled baseline data for the concerned value chains in selected intervention areas in order to ensure a cross-country monitoring and evaluation system for the global programme; and captured data from (a) household surveys and (b) focus group discussions (FGDs).

The study targeted 500 households and 10 FGDs in Ghana. ISSER’s client on this project was GFA Consulting Group. The MLE Unit undertook the recruitment, training and supervision of enumerators.

AGRA Baseline Studies in Ghana, Mali and Burkina Faso

ISSER was contracted by AGRA to conduct baseline studies in Ghana, Mali and Burkina Faso which sought to collect and analyze data on various outcome indicators to inform AGRA’s management and partners on the reference situation in the intervention areas of these countries. Specifically, information gathered from these studies were expected to be used to:

(i) assist in setting appropriate targets for future interventions and(ii) inform the strategic decisions on the design and implementation of future interventions.

In Ghana, the intervention regions were the Northern and Brong Ahafo Regions with the targeted crops being maize, rice, cassava and soybean. For Mali, Sikasso, Segou and Koulikoro were the intervention regions with maize, millet, sorghum and cowpea as targeted crops. In Burkina Faso, the targeted crops were maize, rice, cowpea and sorghum, and the regions for the intervention were Centre-Est, Centre-Quest, Boucle de Mouhoun, Hautes-Bassins and Cascades.

The MLE Unit undertook the revision of the questionnaires, CAPI design, recruitment and training of field personnel, supervision of fieldwork, collation and cleaning of data and the writing of survey reports for the three country study.

Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) Project

The six-year programme was carried out jointly by UNICEF and the Ministry of Gender and Social Protection in order to tackle extreme poverty and achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

ISSER was contracted to carry out a study to ascertain the impact of the programme on its beneficiaries and this has been undertaken in 3 waves: 1st Wave (baseline survey) in 2010, 2nd Wave (mid line survey) in 2012 and 3rd Wave (endline survey) in 2016. Overall, the study sought to evaluate the long-term effect/impact of the programme that began in 2007.

Specifically, it sought to evaluate the impact of the programme on human development; the impact on overall household poverty and economic productivity; how the programme has facilitated access to complementary social programmes; how it has had an impact on individual and household level outcomes; and how it has impacted on the social networks of beneficiaries.

The MLE Unit revised the questionnaires, set up the CAPI design, recruited and trained field personnel, supervised fieldwork, collated and cleaned data, and wrote the survey report.

2. CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVES

Two capacity building workshops were done for both PhD students and faculty at the University of Ghana. Another demand-driven training programme was developed and undertaken for the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Both training events were done using the Unit's newly-built computer lab.

Training workshop on the use of STATA/SPSS software for the analysis of large data sets

The Unit in collaboration with Working Group on Development Policy, Poverty, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPPME) organized a training in STATA & SPSS using large data sets.

The programme took place from 13th – 18th December, 2015 and trained second and third year PhD students in the areas of sustainability and enterprise development; labour market issues; health and social wellbeing; spending and MDG targets; poverty analysis and other related areas on how to use STATA and SPSS in analyzing large quantitative datasets.

The 21 participants spanned across disciplines such as Agricultural Economics, Development Studies, Economics, Environmental Science, Finance, Geography, Public Health and Sociology. Participants were taken through Basic Statistical concepts, Data Management using SPSS, Introduction to STATA: STATA interfaces and uses, basic descriptive statistics using STATA. Participants were also taught how to create do-files and log-files using STATA, data management and how to apply STATA in regression analysis.

Training Workshop for the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MOTI)

The Unit organised a customised training programme in Data Management and Quantitative Technique for Economic Analysis for the Research, Statistics and Information Management (RSIM) Directorate staff of the Ministry of Trade and Industry from 22nd February to 4th March, 2016.

The programme sought to train some staff of the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MoTI) on how to use STATA and SPSS in analysing large quantitative datasets. The thirteen (13) participants were taken through Data Management and Analysis I & II, Introduction to STATA, Exploratory Data Analysis in STATA I & II, Data Management and Analysis with Excel.

The participants' disciplines spanned across Development Studies, Political Science, Public Administration, Economics, Computer Science, Agriculture, Geography, Accounting and Sociology.

3. REGIONAL NETWORKING/ PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS

In order to build capacity in the sub-region, the two MLE advisors of the Unit went on reconnaissance visits to Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and other Universities in Ghana.

There were two Regional Partners' Workshop during the period. Twelve participants from the sub-region were represented by Institutions such as National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INSD, Burkina Faso), Groupe de Recherche en Economie Appliquee et Theorique (GREAT, Mali), World Cocoa Foundation (WCF, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire), National Root Crops Research Institute (Nigeria), Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique du Niger (INRAN, Niger) and the University of Development Studies (UDS, Ghana).

The resource persons for the workshop were Prof. Felix A. Asante, Director of ISSER, Prof. Robert Darko Osei, (MLE Advisor), Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto (MLE Advisor) and Prof. Christopher Udry, a professor at Yale University with extensive research in Impact Evaluations in West Africa.

Our Eight Core Strategic Objectives



Research

Promote a research agenda that is forward-looking and relevant to the development of Ghana

1

2

Evaluative Thinking

Consciously promote evaluative thinking throughout the Institute



Training

Ensure the sustained relevance of teaching and learning programmes to meet the demands of the job market

3

4

Stakeholders

Enhance stakeholder relationships in pursuit of mutually beneficial objectives



Dissemination and Advocacy

Be proactive and strategic in information dissemination and policy advocacy

5

6

Processes

We will review and implement processes that facilitate research training and advocacy



People

Build a highly qualified, well-trained, motivated, committed and efficient team

7

8

Financial Management

Secure and adequately manage our financial resources to ensure that we deliver on our aims





RESEARCH AT ISSER

Selected New and on-going Research Projects

AGRA Baseline Studies in Ghana, Mali and Burkina Faso

ISSER in July 2016, through competitive bidding, was contracted by AGRA to conduct baseline studies in Ghana, Mali and Burkina Faso. The overall purpose of these studies is to collect and analyse data on various outcome indicators to inform AGRA's management and partners on the reference situation in the intervention areas of these countries. Specifically, information gathered from these studies is expected to be used to:

- (i) assist in setting appropriate targets for future interventions and
- (ii) inform the strategic decisions on the design and implementation of future interventions.

In Ghana, the intervention regions are the Northern and Brong Ahafo Regions with the targeted crops being maize, rice, cassava and soybean.



Prof. Felix Asante, seated far right, kick-starts the meeting with a welcome address

For Mali, Sikasso, Segou and Koulikoro are the intervention regions with maize, millet, sorghum and cowpea as targeted crops. In Burkina Faso, the targeted crops are maize, rice, cowpea and sorghum and the regions for the intervention are Centre-Est, Centre-Quest, Boucle de Mouhoun, Hautes-Bassins and Cascades.

Scaling Up Post-Harvest Management Innovations for Grain Legumes in Burkina Faso

In March 2016, the Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) signed a 2.1 million dollar grant agreement with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) to implement a three-year grant support applied research project to bring effective, field-tested post-harvest innovations for increasing productivity and reducing post-harvest loss of cowpea to thousands of smallholder farmers in Burkina Faso. It will test different legume post-harvest technologies scaling up models with private and public sector partners and proven delivery mechanisms. If successful, the innovations have the ability to benefit the lives of at least 320 smallholder farmers directly during the project lifetime and scale up to benefit the lives of other smallholder farmers by 2020.

In addition, the project will develop effective scaling up models and innovation delivery systems for adaptation and use in other countries in the sub-region.

ISSER has been contracted by AGRA to conduct a study aimed at assessing the impact evaluation of the scaling up of post-harvest management technologies (that is, the use of threshers and PICS bags) for cowpea on smallholder farmers in the Boucle de Mouhoun Region of Burkina Faso. Overall, the overarching goal of the project under investigation is to improve incomes of smallholder farmers through the use of threshers and PICS bags post-harvest technologies.

Ghana Home Grown School Feeding Programme: Impact Evaluation Endline Survey

This is a 3-year impact evaluation study jointly undertaken by Partnership for Child Development (PCD) based at Imperial College, Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER) and Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR) at the University of Ghana. The study is based on a randomised control trial design put together by PCD with funding support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Dubai Cares.

The aim of the evaluation is to assess the impact of school feeding programme sourced from smallholder farmers on the wellbeing of school children; their nutrition, health and education; and the communities in which the school feeding is taking place in Ghana. This is so far the first rigorous impact evaluation conducted on the Ghana School Feeding (GSF) programme.

One of the challenges of the GSF is the inability to link small-scale farmers to the programme. Caterers on the other hand face challenges including inability to mitigate price fluctuations due to delays in payments from the GSF Secretariat.

The enhanced version of the GSF (HGSF), which is a pilot programme was designed by PCD under the leadership of the Government of Ghana and in collaboration with Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), Netherlands Development Agency (SNV), World Food Program (WFP) School Feeding and Purchase for Progress (SF and P4P) teams. This programme involved the development of an integrated package of community-level activities aimed at enhancing the impact of the GSF programme on poverty and food insecurity.

The goals of the HGSF pilot project include:

1. Increasing the productivity and income of smallholder farmers through direct access to school feeding markets by stimulating the economy at community level through purchasing food from smallholder farmers
2. Enhancing nutrition and nutrition behaviour change at household level by improving children's access to nutritious food, and also providing an entry point for behaviour change to improve the diets and healthy eating behaviours of school children as well as that of their families.



School Feeding Project

The study utilised a field experiment design around the scale-up of the national school-feeding programme, involving 116 basic schools in 58 Districts. The randomly-assigned intervention arms evaluated are;

1. Standard GSF schools; where the existing Ghana School Feeding programme is being implemented;
2. Enhanced GSF (HGSF) schools; included schools and communities where some nutrition support activities were implemented in addition to the standard GSF; and
3. Control group; included schools and households from communities where implementation of school feeding will be delayed for two years (at the end of the evaluation), without informing schools and households of impending intervention.

Primary outcomes measured include school participation and learning outcomes, child health and nutrition status, prevalence of endemic parasitic infections, and smallholder market access and income. The impact evaluation used data collected in panel surveys of selected schools and households in the selected districts.

Climate Change Budget and Financial Tracking Tools – Ghana Project

The Ministry of Finance, Ghana, established the Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change (NRECC) Unit in 2010 to oversee, coordinate and manage the financing of climate change activities. However, the Unit lacks the mechanism to track the financial resources originating within the country or from external sources. The Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research were tasked to research and come out with an output on this research project. The scope of work included the following:



- Design a national tracking tool for climate finance (including climate change budget code) that can capture relevant end-of-year out turn expenditures;
- Develop economic and budget analysis tools for climate-related decision-making and budgetary allocation;
- Validate the tools, manual and methodology notes with key stakeholders through a one-day workshop in Accra;

- Conduct at least one training on the developed tools for key government staff identified;
- Develop the manual for the tools designed and provide a strategy to operationalise them within the public financial management system of Ghana and
- Organise a review workshop with the Government of Ghana, UNDP and selected participants

Baseline Telephony Consumer Satisfaction Survey

The Electronic Communications Act 2008, Section 26 (1) mandates the National Communications Authority (NCA) to periodically ascertain public opinion on the performance of service providers and network operators. In 2012/2014, the Authority conducted a consumer satisfaction survey to determine perception of mobile phone users with regard to the services they receive from their service providers. In the light of the increase in number of Metropolitan, Municipal and Districts Assemblies (MMDAs) since the previous survey and also the changes and increase in service providers and services provided by various network operators, it has become important to conduct a baseline survey for the year 2015/2016. This is to enable a scientific measurement of consumers' experiences and perceptions. The study measured the success of key interventions in terms of reach and impact on consumers and also ascertained the visibility and awareness of the NCA.

A nationwide consumer satisfaction survey would enable the National Communications Authority (NCA) to understand consumer perceptions of the quality of telecommunications services. This would also improve service providers' efforts to meet consumers' expectations in the future. The results of the survey would allow the NCA to measure the success of its interventions and impact on consumers. Any major shortfalls in service provision would be identified which would justify any plans and actions for improvement. Through the survey, the NCA would help raise consumers' awareness of their rights, benefits and obligations in relation to service providers and also raise awareness of the NCA as the regulatory body in the sector.

Energy-Efficient Refrigerators Functional Demonstration Project

The Energy-Efficient Refrigerators (EERs) are new technologies certified and promoted by the Energy Commission (EC) of Ghana under the United Nation's Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) programmes geared towards energy efficiency and sustainable energy usage in the household and commercial sectors.

Between 2011 and 2014, the EC of Ghana run the Refrigerator Energy Efficiency project which targeted the replacement of some 15,000 old inefficient refrigerators around the country that consume on average, 1200 kWh/year with efficient ones which consume about 250kWh/year.

The EERs come in different grades with respect to their efficiency levels. There are often efficiency labels attached to the products to indicate the level of efficiency of the refrigerators. Five star labeled refrigerators are the more efficient products while fewer stars' labeled refrigerators indicate less efficiency. The EERs are built with a thermo-stat that turns the refrigerator off for few minutes at peak frost and turns it back on when the refrigerator is beginning to defrost.

These products are specifically designed to perform the same functions as the old inefficient ones but with less energy intensity.

The EERs are basically developed to help conserve energy and reduce income spent on energy through cutting down electricity consumption. Aside helping to conserve energy nationwide, the use of these energy-efficient refrigerators can also help increase the income savings of households especially, the poor ones, to enhance expenditure on other competitive needs.

Despite the energy conservation and income saving potential of the EERs, patronage in Awutu Senya East Municipality (ASEM) and Ga East Municipality (GEM) has been very low. This project therefore seeks to:

- Demonstrate the energy efficiency of the EERs vis-à-vis the old inefficient ones;
- Educate people on the economic benefits of the EERs vis-à-vis the old inefficient ones;
- Educate people on the environmental co-benefits of the use of EERs.

Land Concentration, Gendered Agrarian Transformation and the Right to Food

A number of forces – including transnational land acquisitions, domestic investors, migrants, conservation efforts and government policies – have come together in recent years to put commercial pressure on land in the South and encourage its commodification. This has accelerated processes of agrarian transition, affecting rural livelihoods and impacting food security.

It is likely that the outcomes of these processes differ for women and men. Existing data show that food insecurity is distributed highly unevenly, with women and girls disproportionately hungry. There also is evidence that women do not gain as much as men from agricultural modernization. And yet, studies show that food security improves when women control income and land.



The right to food, codified in various international legal instruments, establishes a legal obligation for states to respect, protect and fulfil the right without discrimination. It is a powerful tool to help achieve food security by holding governments accountable and by helping fight discrimination and exclusion.



The project applies a right to food and gender equality perspective to examining changes in food security in the wake of land commercialisation in two case countries, Cambodia and Ghana. It seeks to answer three research questions:

1. What gendered changes in livelihoods arise from contemporary processes of land commercialisation, and how do these affect food security?
2. How do local, national and international gendered power constellations and policies influence changes in food security?
3. How does the promotion of gender equality and the right to food affect changes in food security?

The overarching goal is to strengthen knowledge, awareness and debates about the relationship between food security, the right to food and gender equality with an eye towards empowering women and men to claim their rights and encouraging governments to create the conditions to facilitate their realization. The project will provide evidence highlighting the importance of the right to food and gender equality for food security and examine the challenges to implementing these principles. Through training and policy dialogue, it will strengthen awareness of the relevance of gender-equality and the right to food among stakeholders at local, national and international levels, and will animate them to weigh the research findings in adopting or advocating for rights-based and gender equitable food security policies.

The study examined the ways women are represented in literature, the media, the visual arts and popular discourses. The report also investigated the changing roles and participation of women in various spheres of public and private life, including governance, business, science and education. The study relied on existing research, national statistics and newspaper reports alongside primary data

from a survey and focus group discussions. The study was conducted between January and April 2016.

Shakespeare Lives In Ghana: Women In Contemporary Ghanaian Society.

To commemorate the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death—and as part of a worldwide celebration of the Bard dubbed "*Shakespeare Lives*"--the British Council in Ghana commissioned a research report on the roles, representations and perceptions of women in contemporary Ghanaian Society.

The report was presented at the launch of the year-long celebration and will be the basis of a theatre performance in October that explores some of the enduring themes of Shakespeare's art within a Ghanaian context, including that of love and conflict between the sexes, and the ways women find to overcome or circumvent the strictures placed on them.



TEACHING PROGRAMMES

PhD Programme

After a competitive screening process, seven sponsored students were admitted to pursue a PhD programme in Development Studies for the 2015/2016 academic year. This increased the total number of registered PhD students to twenty nine (29).

Six of the students who were admitted were Ghanaians and one was a Nigerian. Four out of the seven are males.

Upon completion of the course work which focused on development theories and research methodologies, the first year students participated in the summer school at the Centre for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn. For two months the students interacted with faculty and other PhD students at the Centre, reviewed their literature and worked on their research proposals.

As part of the programme, some of the continuing students presented their papers at international conferences. Three students from the third and fourth batches had the privilege of defending their theses and have successfully graduated from the University. Below are the names of the graduates and their thesis titles:

- Dr. Antoinette Cecilia Tsiboe-Darko: Institutions and Socio-Economic Change in Two Oil Affected Districts in Ghana (November, 2015).
- Dr. Emmanuel Anyang Abeka: Adaptation to Urban Flood among the Poor in the Accra Metropolitan Area (November, 2015).
- Dr. John Abebrese Boateng: Health Insurance and Healthcare Utilization of Rural Farm Households in the Akuapem South District of Ghana (July, 2016).

MA Programme

The MA in Development Studies Programme at ISSER trains individuals on the current and scientific approaches to analysing the varied perspectives of development in the world, and particularly Ghana.



ISSER Students on a field trip

The Programme duration is 12 months divided into two semesters. It prepares students to understand and be in a position to formulate evidence-based policies and decisions to address the diverse development concerns in Ghana and contribute to addressing development challenges in the world.

A wide range of teaching methods are employed to vary the learning experiences. These include lectures, seminars, workshops, computer-oriented practicals and field-based practicals. Supervision is provided through group tutorials and individually.

Total number of students admitted in 2015/2016 was 21, Out of the number, 6 were females and 15 males.

Short Courses

The Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER) of the University of Ghana, Legon organized four short courses for policy makers, analysts, programme implementers, consultants, central government, ministries, district assemblies, NGOs, social services groups, researchers and students, etc. between 1st June and 31st July 2016.

The four short courses are (i) Research method and Report writing (ii) Data management and Analysis (iii) Project cycle and management and (iv) Survey techniques.

The courses seek to equip participants with usable operational skills, methods and techniques that are relevant to solving development problems in Ghana.



SNAPSHOTS OF 2015/16



1/13 Prof. Felix A. Asante & Dr. Simon Bawakyillenuo presenting reports on documents on the State of Energy.
 2. Business Manager of MLE unit.
 3. ISSER holds roundtable on young people's aspirations, prospects
 4. Launch of MLE Unit
 5. SGER 2015, a Participant asking questions.
 6/12 Workshop on Green Growth Diagnostics for Africa Project.

7. MLE Unit
 8. Media, participants seated for the conference.
 9. Seated on the high table from left to right are, Dr. Charles Ackah, Head Economics Division, ISSER, Prof. Felix Asante, Director, Prof. Oduro Owusu, Incoming V-C and Prof. Samuel Adjei-Mensah, Provost, College of Humanities
 10. Prof. Felix Asante, seated far right, kick-starts the meeting with a welcome address during, SGER 2015
 10. A Participant asking questions.
 11. Prof. Felix Asante, seated far right, kick-starts the meeting with a welcome address



OUR COLLABORATORS



THE UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA at CHAPEL HILL



UNIVERSITY OF GHANA - LEGON



Yale University



HARVARD UNIVERSITY



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE



University of Sussex



ADVOCACY AND EXTENSION

ISSER's advocacy drive in the year under review was one consistent with its hallmark of being an institute on the move. Within the country, researchers engaged in activities that spread and shared knowledge with stakeholders. Some availed themselves of the opportunities they had to travel abroad to attend conferences and in some cases hold meetings with partners and stakeholders.

There was an opportunity made possible by the media for the views of ISSER to be heard on a key issue which was a bother to many Ghanaians. Elections were to be held and the concern was how to manage or hold back excessive spending. ISSER's voice was very strong, loud and clear on this issue and the social media platform engagement was striking.

The Institute had important visitors pass through for speaking engagements and also to attend conferences and at such fora knowledge was shared.

A recap of some of the events and engagements are captured below:

2016 Think Tank Transparency Report : ISSER tops them all

While, globally, most Think Tanks have become transparent about their sources of funding, only one Ghana Think Tank scored five stars in Transparify's Think Tank Transparency 2016 report released on June 29, 2016.

The report, which looks at Think Tanks that take money behind closed doors, has three categories: highly transparent (five stars), broadly transparent (four to two stars) and highly opaque (1-0 star).

ISSER is in the highly transparent category. The Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER), of the University of Ghana, is among the top ten Think Tanks in the world that are highly transparent. ISSER is one of three from Africa. The others from Africa are Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute and South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA).

The Criteria

The report by Transparify, a non-profit initiative based in Georgia (Caucasus), rated 200 Think Tanks in 47 countries based on their levels of online disclosure.

According to the report, it discovered that an unprecedented number of policy research and advocacy organisations are now broadly or highly transparent, publishing the names of their donors and information on the amounts given by each donor on their websites.

“Transparency levels among African Think Tanks continue to improve at a rapid pace. Back in 2013, the best performer in our sample was a single 3-star institution. Today, out of the 23 Think Tanks in the original cohort, seven are transparent. Only four organizations remain highly opaque,” the report said.

The Think Tank Transparency Table

The report notes that more and more Think Tanks are discovering that while transparency carries low costs, it can bring huge benefits in terms of signalling commitment to intellectual independence, integrity, excellence in research, and the credibility that comes from respecting democratic norms while participating in democratic debates.

In a press release, Transparify indicated that the list of Think Tanks that have become highly transparent over the past year includes institutions with global name recognition like the Brussels-based International Crisis Group as well as national centres of excellence like Ghana's Institute of Statistical, Social & Economic Research (ISSER) and Georgia's Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy & Development (CIPDD).

Several Think Tanks in Africa distinguished themselves this year by becoming 5-star transparent, the report notes.

Think Tank Excellence in Africa

Presenting the 2016 Transparify Award Winners



The top six African think tanks in this table are highly transparent about who their donors are, and how much each donor gives them.

ORGANIZATION	COUNTRY	TREND	SCORE	
Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Inst (EEA/EEPRI)	Ethiopia	+4	*****	HIGHLY TRANSPARENT
Institute of Statistical, Social & Econ Research (ISSER)	Ghana	+3	*****	
African Economic Research Consortium	Kenya		*****	
IEA Kenya	Kenya		*****	
Corruption Watch	South Africa	new	*****	
South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA)	South Africa	+3	*****	
Botswana Institute for Devp Policy Analysis (BIDPA)	Botswana		****	BROADLY TRANSPARENT
Institute for Public Policy Research	Namibia		****	
Research on Poverty Alleviation (REPOA)	Tanzania		***	HIGHLY OPAQUE
Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI)	Ethiopia		**	
IEA Ghana	Ghana		**	
Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research (KIPPRA)	Kenya		**	
Centre for Population and Environmental Devp (CPED)	Nigeria		**	
IPAR Rwanda	Rwanda		**	
Council for Devp of Social Science Research (CODESRIA)	Senegal		**	
Center for Development and Enterprise	South Africa		**	
Institute for Security Studies (ISS)	South Africa		**	
Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF)	Tanzania	+1	**	
Advocates Coalition for Develop (ACODE)	Uganda		**	
Economic Policy Research Center (EPRC)	Uganda	+1	**	
Center for Policy Analysis	Ghana		*	
IMANI Center for Policy and Education	Ghana	+3	*	
Centre for Democratic Development	Ghana		0	
Centre for the Study of Economies of Africa (CSEA)	Nigeria	-1	0	

The existence of highly transparent think tanks in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya and South Africa clearly demonstrates that other African institutions can also excel in transparency if they choose to.

Full report visit
www.transparify.org

The Global Ranking

“For several years, Transparify was only able to find two highly transparent Think Tanks on the continent, transparency pioneers African Economic Research Consortium and IEA Kenya, both based in Nairobi. This year, the Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute, Ghana’s ISSER and South Africa’s Corruption Watch and SAIIA also earned a 5-star rating and joined the global club of top transparency performers,” it said.

“These highly transparent institutions set a positive example for the sector as a whole, both nationally and internationally. Once one Think Tank discloses exactly how much money it receives from each donor, and for what purposes, it raises the bar for all other players in the country.

If one institution can do it, all institutions can do it,” Dr. Hans Gutbrod, Executive Director of Transparify was quoted as saying.

The organization pointed out that its researchers found that only 102 of the Think Tanks assessed remain opaque, down from 144 four years ago.

“The number of organisations who still consider it acceptable to take money from hidden hands behind closed doors is rapidly dwindling. They are running out of excuses,” Dr. Gutbrod added



ISSER presents SAMSET Project Report to two Municipalities

The Lead Researcher for Supporting Sub-Saharan Africa's Municipalities with Sustainable Energy Transition (SAMSET) Project in Ghana, Dr. Simon Bawakyillenuo, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research, ISSER, has presented two reports and two strategy documents on the state of energy in two selected municipalities in the country which were the focus as well as partners of a three-year research work.



Prof. Felix A. Asante & Dr. Simon Bawakyillenuo presenting reports on documents on the State of Energy.

The titles of the reports and strategy documents are: *State of Energy Report 2014 Ga East Municipality*, *Sustainable Energy Strategy for Ga East Municipality*, *State of Energy Report 2014 Awutu Senya East Municipality* and *Sustainable Energy Strategy for Awutu Senya East Municipality*.

SAMSET is a four-year project (2013 – 2017) supporting sustainable energy transition in six urban areas in three African countries – Ghana, Uganda and South Africa. A key objective is to improve the “*knowledge transfer framework*” so that research and capacity-building efforts are more effective in supporting this challenging area.

The presentation of the report and Strategy document to the Ga East Municipal Assembly at Abokobi, was preceded by an official launch by Prof. Felix Asante, Director of ISSER.

He stressed the importance of energy to households, assembly and the country in general and gave the assurance that ISSER would continue to partner and cooperate with the assembly.

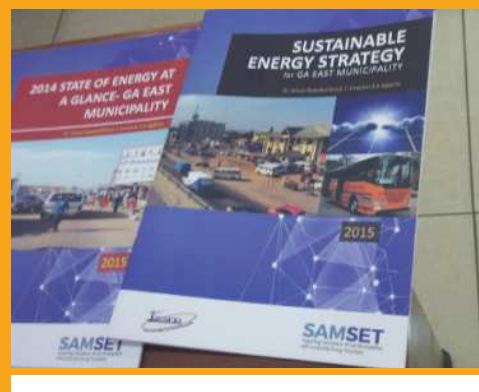
Speaking at the ceremony, Dr. Simon Bawakyillenuo gave the historical underpinnings to the project and noted that sustainability and efficiency were critical to using energy well. He observed that when the right attitude was adopted, pollution will minimize and thereby control or stop diseases.

On his part, the Municipal Chief Executive (MCE) Hon. Nuhu thanked the research team and ISSER for all the assistance and the collaborative work so far engaged in. It was disclosed that the knowledge acquired from the collaborative work on SAMSET Project helped the assembly to put together proposals which led to the siting of a biogas plant at Kasoa Zongo.

SAMSET Project is supported by UKaid, Department of Energy and Climate Change and Research Council UK – Energy for a low Carbon Future.



Some participants at the presentation of the report and Strategy document to the Ga East Municipal Assembly at Abokobi.



Reports

Launch of State of the Ghanaian Economy Report 2015 launched

The Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research, ISSER, University of Ghana, has launched the 25th edition of its flagship report: The State of the Ghanaian Economy 2015 Report.

The optional chapter in the report was education which looked at the state of the sector since Independence. It was held on Tuesday, 27th September, 2016 at the Conference Hall of the Institute amidst drumming and dancing by the Ghana Dance Ensemble.

At the launch, the Director of ISSER, Prof. Felix Asante thanked the reviewers of the report.

On Education, the Report observed that the Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education (FCUBE) programme introduced in 1995 has improved access to primary education with enrolment climbing from 3.5 million in 1990s to nearly 7 million pupils in 2012.

For tertiary education, enrolment in Ghanaian universities went up from under 10,000 students in Ghana's three public universities in 1987 to over 400,000 by 2015 (according to the National Accreditation Board).

Some challenges identified by the report include decreasing quality of education at all levels as a result of increased access not matched by increased funding and a secondary education system where the top 20% of schools account for 70% of the candidates for tertiary education.

Others are that the enrolment in Science and Mathematics programmes is significantly lower, stemming from low performance at the Senior High School level and the fact that the overall ratio of science-based to humanities-based programme was about 30% to 70% in 2014.

During the open discussion, representatives of some institutions and individuals asked questions and responses came from some members of the team that wrote the report and amongst them were Prof. Jonathan Arko Fletcher, Prof. Asante, Prof. Peter Quartey and Dr. Charles Ackah.



Seated on the high table from left to right are, Dr. Charles Ackah, Head Economics Division, ISSER, Prof. Felix Asante, Director, Prof. Oduro Owusu, incoming V-C and Prof. Samuel Adjei-Mensah, Provost, College of Humanities.

The incoming Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Prof. Ebenezer Oduro Owusu, launched the report and hoped it would set the agenda in the media space for meaningful discussion towards national development.

The Vice-Chancellor urged the government to resuscitate the agricultural sector arguing that countries which have developed like Japan started with agriculture.

He argued that the way forward for the nation is to give priority to science at all levels of the educational ladder.



Some of the audience at the launch

Workshop on Green Growth Diagnostics for Africa Project held

A day's dissemination workshop to unveil findings of a research project on Green Growth Diagnostics was held at the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research, (ISSER), University of Ghana.



Speakers at the Green Growth Workshop Diagnostic for Africa

It also sought to stimulate more dialogue among stakeholders notably, the public, civil society organisations, private sector and academia as well as donor agencies.

Speakers at the workshop were Dr. Simon Bawakyillenuo Project Lead from ISSER who spoke on the Political Economy Analysis (PEA) of Binding Constraints to Renewable Energy in Ghana and Dr. Ana Pueyo, (PI, IDS) gave an overview of the Green Growth Diagnostics for Africa (GGDA) while Dr. Timothy Afful-Koomson presented the keynote address. The event was chaired by Prof. Paul Yankson.

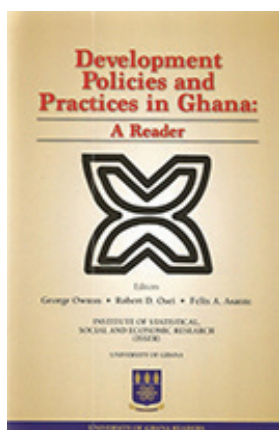
Dr. Charles Ackah, Head of the Economics Division stood in for the Director of ISSER Prof. Felix Asante to give the welcome address.



Speakers and Participants at the Green Growth Workshop Diagnostic for Africa

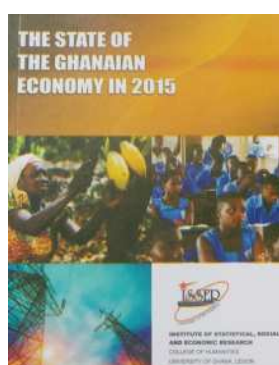


PUBLICATIONS BY THE INSTITUTE



In both policy and practice, the field of ‘development ‘ remains crowded in terms of actors, ideas, strategies and theories, and its meaning is shaped by the wide and varied socio-economic, cultural and political backgrounds of individuals and groups in the development arena.

Therefore, the field of development is in constant flux with implications for both policy and practice. This book “Development Policies and Practices in Ghana: A Reader” brings together a collection of essays that discuss the varied aspects of development thinking and practices using Ghana as a case study.



The State of the Ghanaian Economy Report (SGER) has remained one of the most comprehensive and credible sources of informed analysis on the Ghanaian economy – a valuable resource to guide government and high level policy makers in the public and private sector, civil society, bilateral and multilateral partners, academicians, among others. Thus, the SGER has since 1992 served as an independent report to bridge the information and knowledge gap on key economic and development issues facing the country, while offering informed policy recommendations.

The optional chapter of the SGER, 2015 was on “The State of the Education Sector”.



LIST OF PUBLICATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2015/2016 ACADEMIC YEAR BY RESEARCHERS

Martha Adimabuno Awo

Journal

Martha Adimabuno Awo & Kwabena Sumani Anaman (2015). Political Economy Analysis of the Production and Marketing of Shea Nut Products by Women in the Northern Region of Ghana. *Research in World Economy*, Vol.6 (4): 1-17

Felix Ankomah Asante, Martha Adimabuno Awo and Felix Agyei-Sasu (2015). Cost-pricing of Fertilizer and its Challenges in a Subsidized Market: The Case of Ghana. *Ghana Social Science Journal*, Vol. 12(1), pp. 22-47

Book Chapter

Martha A. Awo & Felix Agyei-Sasu (2016). The Global Value Chain of Shea Butter and Rural Producers in Northern Ghana, In Achim Gutowski "Tobias Knedlik, Patrick N. Osakwe, Isabelle Ramdoo, Karl Wohlmuth (eds.) Africa's Progress in Regional and Global Economic Integration" Towards Transformative Regional Integration. *Africa Development Perspective Yearbook 2015/16*, Volume 18, LIT VERLAG.

Felix Ankomah Asante

Book Chapter

Kornher, L. and Asante, F. A. (2016). Stocks and Storage Behavior of Traders in Ghana: Insights from a Trader Survey. In Mattias Kakuhl, Joachim von Braun and Maximo Torero (editors) *Food Price Volatility and Its Implications for Food Security and Policy*, pp.603-626. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-28201-5_23

Journals

Dzator, J., Dzator, M., Asante, F. A. and Ahiadeke, C. (2016). Common mental disorders, economic growth and development: Economic consequences and measurement issues. *The Journal of Developing Areas*, 50(5), 13-26. DOI:10.1353/jda.2016.0047

Fenny, A. P., Asante, F. A., Arhinful, D. K., Kusi, A., Parmar, D. and Williams, G. (2016). Who uses outpatient healthcare services under Ghana's health protection scheme and why? *BMC Health Services Research*, 16:174. DOI: 10.1186/s12913-016-1429-z

Geli, A., Masset, E., Folsom, G., Kusi, A., Arhinful, D. K., Asante, F. et al. (2016). Evaluation of alternative school feeding models on nutrition, education, agriculture and other social outcomes in Ghana: rationale, randomised design and baseline data. *Trials*, 17:37. DOI: 10.1186/s13063-015-1116-0

Isaac Osei-Akoto

Journals

Adamba, C. and Osei-Akoto, I., (2015). Positioning Ghana's health insurance system for universal coverage: A synthesis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats: In *Positioning Ghana: Challenges and Innovations*, (ed.) Nana Araba Apt, IFRA, Ibadan, ISBN: 978-978-921-092-3, pg. 219-246.

Singh, K. Osei-Akoto, I. Otchere, F., Sodzi-Tettey, S., Barrington, C., Huang, C., Fordham, C., and Speizer, I. (2015). Ghana's national health insurance scheme and maternal and child health: a mixed methods study. *BMC Health Services Research*, 15(108): pg. 1-13, 10.1186/s12913-015-0762-y.

Daidone, S., Handa, S., Davis, B., Park, M., Osei, R.D. and Osei-Akoto, I. (2015). *Social Networks and Risk Management in Ghana's Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty Programme* Innocenti Working Paper No.2015-06, UNICEF Office of Research, Florence.

Richard de Groot, Sudhanshu Handa, Michael Park, Robert Osei Darko, Isaac Osei-Akoto, Garima Bhalla, Luigi Peter Ragno, (2015). Heterogeneous Impacts of an Unconditional Cash Transfer Programme on Schooling: Evidence from the Ghana LEAP Programme Innocenti Working Paper no. 2015-10, UNICEF Office of Research - Innocenti, Florence.

Simon Bawakyillenuo

Journal

Bawakyillenuo, S. Agbelie, I. S. K. 2016 (in press). Gender Dynamics in the Choice of Place of Trade among Young Entrepreneurs in Ghana. *International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business*.

Book

Bird, N., Asante, F. A., Bawakyillenuo, S., Trujillo, N. C., Eshetu, Z., Tumushabe, G., Yanda, P., Norman, M., Addoquaye, T. C., Amsalu, A., Ashiabi, A., Kateka, A., Muhumuza, D. M. T., Simane, B. 2016. Public spending on climate change in Africa. Experiences from Ethiopia, Ghana, Tanzania and Uganda. ODI, London. Available at: <https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/resource-documents/10545.pdf>

Book Chapter

Yaro J. A., Teye, J., Bawakyillenuo, S. 2016. An assessment of determinants of adaptive capacity to climate change/variability in the rural savannah of Ghana. In Yaro, Joseph A., Hesselberg, Jan [Eds.], *Adaptation to Climate Change and Variability in Rural West Africa*. Springer.

Technical Publication

Pueyo, A., Bawakyillenuo, S., Osiolo, H. 2016. 'Cost and Returns of Renewable Energy in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Comparison of Kenya and Ghana'. IDS Evidence Report 190, April 2016. Available at: http://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/bitstream/handle/123456789/11297/ER190_CostandReturnsofRenewableEnergyinSubSaharanAfricaAComparisonofKenyaandGhana.pdf;jsessionid=1CA560D8DDC86C6EB001440BAF67EA5A?sequence=1

Aba Crentsil

Book Chapter

Inkoom, D.K.B. and Crentsil, A.O. (2015) 'Estimation of indoor air pollution and health impacts due to biomass burning in rural northern Ghana: In Case studies for developing globally responsible engineers, GDEE (eds.), *Global Dimension in Engineering Education*, Barcelona. Available from: <http://gdee.eu/index.php/resources.html>

Yaa Adobea Owusu

Book chapter

Owusu, A. Y. (in press). Health and Development. In G. Owusu, R. D. Osei, & F. A. Asante (Eds.), *Development Policies and Practices in Ghana: A Reader*. Accra: Sub-Saharan Publishers.

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Owusu, G. Oteng-Ababio, M., Owusu, A. Y. and Wrigley-Asante, C. (2016). Can poor neighbourhoods be correlated with crime? Evidence from Urban Ghana. *Ghana Journal of Geography*, 8(1)—Special Issue, 11-31. January.

Asante-Sarpong, H., Owusu, A. Y., Saravanan, S., Appiah, E. N. & Abu, M. (2016). Determinants of use of supervised delivery care under Ghana's fee exemption policy for maternal healthcare: The case of the Central Region. *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*, July 11. 2/2016; 16(1). DOI:10.1186/s12884-016-0960-6

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Owusu, G., Owusu, A. Y., Oteng-Ababio, M., Wrigley-Asante, C., and Agyapong, I. (2016). An assessment of households' perceptions of private security companies and crime in urban Ghana. *Crime Science*, 5:5. doi: 10.1186/s40163-016-0053-x. April 14.

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ISSER. (2015, August). Urban crime prevention and community social cohesion: The case of urban Ghana. (Policy Brief No. 2), Legon, Ghana: Owusu, G., Wrigley-Asante, C., Oteng-Ababio, M., and Owusu, A. Y.

George Owusu

Book Chapters

Owusu, G., Yankson, P. & Osei, R. (2015). Youth entrepreneurship in Ghana: Current trends and policies. In K. Gough & T. Langevang (Eds.), *Young Entrepreneurs in Sub-Saharan Africa* (pp. 32-47). London: Routledge.

Yankson, P. & Owusu, G. (2015). Opportunities and challenges of youth entrepreneurship in a low-income neighbourhood of Accra, In: K. Gough & T. Langevang (Eds.), *Young Entrepreneurs in Sub-Saharan Africa* (pp. 94-107). London: Routledge.

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Oteng-Ababio, M., Owusu, G., Wrigley-Asante, C. & Owusu, A. Y. (2016). Longitudinal analysis of trends and patterns of crime in Ghana, 1980-2010: A new perspective. *African Geographical Review*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19376812.2016.1208768>

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Elizabeth Asiedua Asante

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William Steel

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Cynthia Addoquaye Tagoe

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Nana Akua Anyidoho

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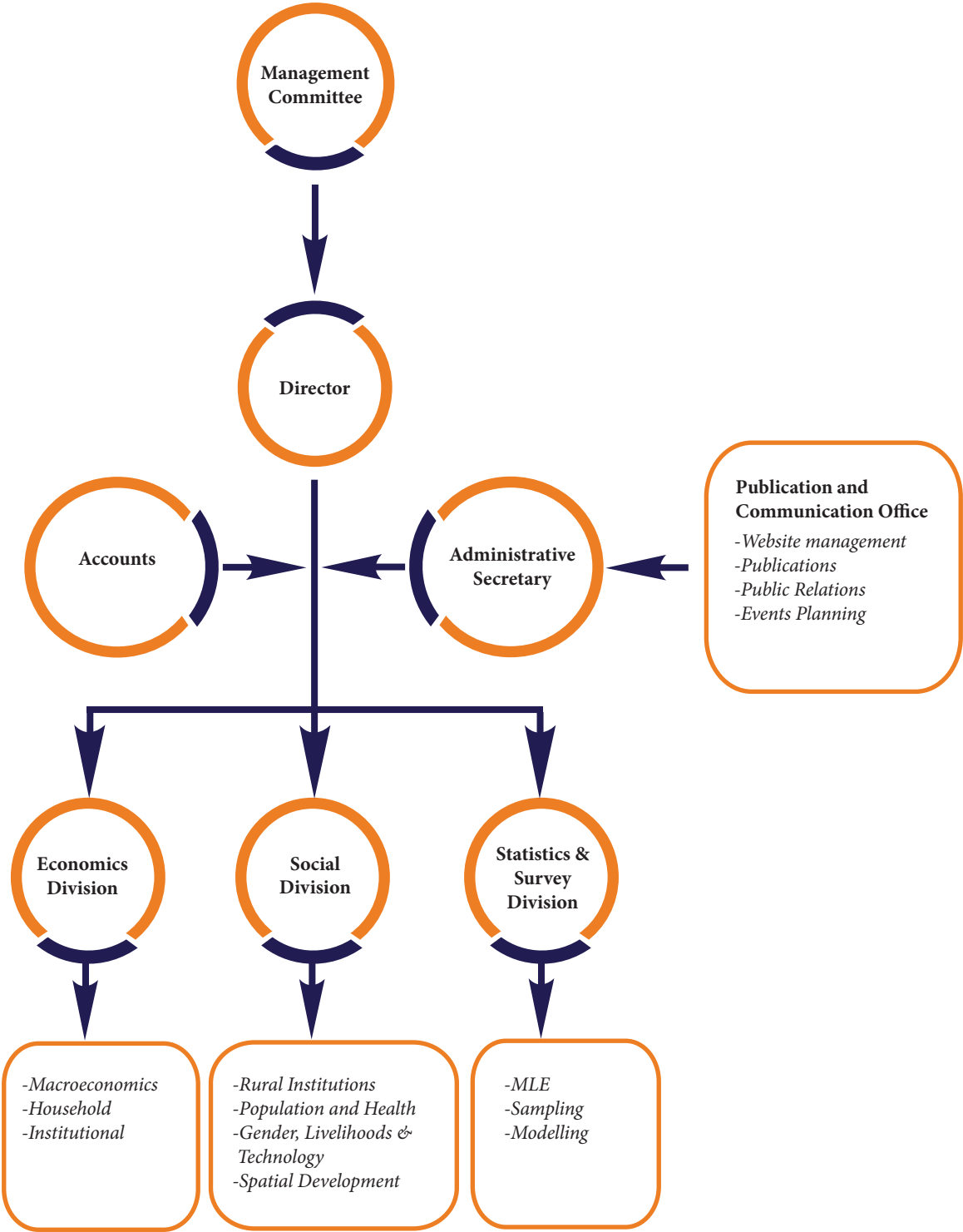
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LIST OF NEW PROJECTS & ON-GOING INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE 2015/16 ACADEMIC YEAR

NO.	PROJECT TITLE	DONOR	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR / CO- INVESTIGATOR(S)	AMOUNT
1.	PhD Programme: Ghana/German Center of Excellence in Development Studies	DAAD/Center for Development Research, Uni. Of Bonn, Germany	Director, ISSER	€ 150,000
2.	Institutional Support	Think Tank Initiative (TTI), IDRC	Director, ISSER	CAD 500,000
3.	Assessing Unmet Needs of Small Merchants in Adopting Digital Payment Systems of Ghana	University of California	Dr. Clement Adamba	US\$ 17,227
4.	Endline Survey for the Impact Evaluation of the Ghana School Feeding Programme	Partnership for Child Development, Imperial College London	Prof. Felix Asante Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto	US\$ 197,693.09
5.	Mapping Incentives and Investment in the Agricultural Sector in Ghana	ODI	Dr. Simon Bawakyillenou	£4,800
6.	Establishment of Progress Against Baseline Indicators to Support Private Sector Development II (SPSD II)	Danish Embassy	Prof. Peter Quartey Dr. Festus Ebo Turkson Dr. Charles Ackah	DKK 248,120
7.	Multi Country Baseline Study for the Innovation Centre for the Agricultural and Food Sector (CIAE)	GSA Consulting Group, Germany	Prof. Robert Darko Osei Dr. Freda Asem	US\$ 37,001.25
8.	An Evaluation of the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) Programme	UNICEF	Prof. Robert Darko Osei Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto	GHC1,098,269.5
9.	Functional demonstration of Energy Efficient Refrigerators	ORID/TDTC	Dr. Simon Bawakyillenuo	GHC40,000

10.	Assessing the role of Hybrid Seed Technology and Out grower Schemes in Transforming the Maize Sector in Ghana	IFPRI	Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto	US\$ 124,089.60
11.	Baseline Telephony Consumer Satisfaction Survey	National Communication Authority	Prof. Felix Asante Prof. Robert Darko Osei Dr. Charles Ackah Dr. Ama P. Fenny	GHC750,000
12.	Climate Change Budget and Financial Tracking Tools – Ghana	ODI	Dr. Simon Bawakyillenuo, Prof. Felix Asante, Mr. Neil Bird	\$29,750
13.	Analyzing the extent and sources of productivity losses from shortages for small and medium sized enterprises	International Growth Centre	Dr. Charles Ackah Dr. Patrick Asiming Dr. Baafrā Abebrese	£ 50,226
14.	AGRA Baseline : Ghana	AGRA	Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto Prof. Robert Darko Osei Prof. Felix Asante	\$409,885.30
15.	AGRA Baseline : Burkina Faso	AGRA	Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto Prof. Robert Darko Osei Prof. Felix Asante	\$458,884.50
16.	AGRA Baseline : Mali	AGRA	Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto Prof. Robert Darko Osei Prof. Felix Asante	\$453, 465.70
17.	Research for Shakespeare Lives in Ghana Project	British Council, Accra	Dr. Nana Akua Anyidoho Dr. Adobea Owusu Dr. Ernest Appiah Dr. Cynthia Addoquaye Tagoe Dr. Aba Crentsil Dr. Mawuli Adjei Ms. Abena Yeboah Banin Ms. Dzifa Torvikey Dr. Joseph Frimpong	GHC85,914.43
18.	Scaling up post-harvest management innovations for grain / legumes in Burkina-Faso	AGRA	Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto Prof. Robert Darko Osei Prof. Felix Asante	\$120,000

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