



REPUBLIC OF GHANA'S INITIAL, FIRST AND
SECOND CONSOLIDATED REPORT TO THE
AFRICAN COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE
RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD

(2005-2013)



September 2014



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	i
List of Tables	vii
List of Figures	viii
List of Acronyms	ix
Foreword	xii
Acknowledgment	xiii
Chapter One Introduction	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Steps Taken to Implement the Charter	2
1.3 Policy Formulation	2
1.4 Legislation	2
1.5 Institutional Reforms	3
Chapter Two General Measures of Implementation	5
2.1 Introduction	5
2.2 Measures taken to realize the rights and welfare of the child in the policies and law of the State Party or in any other international convention or agreement in force in that State	5
2.3 Measures taken to promote positive cultural values and traditions and to discourage those that are inconsistent with the rights, duties and obligations contained in the Children's Charter	5
2.4 Existing or Planned Mechanisms at the National or Local level for Coordinating Policies Relating to Children and for Monitoring the implementation of the Children's Charter	6
2.5 Measures taken to make the principles and provisions of the Children's Charter widely known to adults and children alike	6
Chapter Three Definition of the Child	8
3.1 Definition of the Child under Domestic Law and Regulations	8
3.1.1 Age of a Juvenile	8
3.1.2 Age for Voting	8
3.1.3 Age for obtaining Drivers License	8



3.1.4	Age for making a Will	8
3.1.5	Age at which a person is legally allowed to take alcohol	8
3.1.6	Age for Contractual Liability	9
3.1.7	Legal and Medical Counselling, Medical Treatment or Surgery and Parental Consent	9
3.1.8	Admission to Employment, Including Hazardous Work, Part-Time and Full-Time Work	9
3.1.9	Age for Marriage	9
3.1.10	Age of Sexual Consent	11
3.1.11	Voluntary Enlistment in the Armed Forces	11
3.1.12	Age of Criminal Responsibility	12
Chapter Four General Principles		13
4.1	Principal Legislative, Judicial, Administrative or other Measures in force to Implement the Children's Charter	13
4.2	Factors and Difficulties Encountered and Progress Achieved in implementing the provisions of the African Children's Charter	14
4.2.1	Progress	14
4.2.2	Difficultés	15
4.3	Non-Discrimination (Articles 3 and 26)	16
4.4	Best Interests of the Child (Article 4)	18
4.5	Respect for the views of the child (Article 7)	19
Chapter Five Civil Rights and Freedoms		21
5.1	Name, Nationality, Identity and Registration at Birth	21
5.1.1	Challenges of Births and Deaths Registration	23
5.1.2	Recommendations on Births Registration	23
5.2	Freedom of Expression (Article 7)	24
5.3	Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion (Article 9)	25
5.4	Freedom of Association and of Peaceful Assembly (Article 8)	25
5.5	Protection of Privacy (Article 10)	26
5.6	Protection Against Child Abuse and Torture (Article 16)	26
5.7	Child Protection System	27



Chapter Six	Family Environment And Alternative Care	29
6.1	Parental Guidance (Article 20)	29
6.2	Parental Responsibility (Article 20.1)	30
6.2.1	Challenges in addressing Parental Responsibility by DSW and DOVVSU	32
6.3	Separation from Parents	33
6.3.1	Separation Caused by State Party	33
6.3.2	Separation caused by Internal Displacement Arising from Armed Conflicts Civil Strife, or Natural Disasters	34
6.3.3	Family Reunification and Children Deprived of a Family Environment (Article 2	35
6.3.4	Separation Caused by Human Trafficking	35
6.4	Maintenance of the Child (Article 18.3)	36
6.5	Adoption and Periodic Review of Placement (Article 24)	38
6.5.1	Adoption	38
6.5.2	Periodic Review of Placement	40
6.6	Abuse, neglect, exploitation including physical and psychological recovery and social integration (Articles 16 and 27)	40
6.6.1	Homeless Children	41
6.6.2	Abused or Neglected Children taken into Protective Custody	44
6.6.3	Children Placed in Foster Care	44
6.6.4	Children Placed in Institutional Care	44
6.6.5	Children Placed through Domestic Adoption	46
6.6.6	Inter-Country Adoption	47
6.6.7	Periodic Review of Placement	48
Chapter Seven	Health and Welfare	49
7.1	Right to Life	49
7.2	Children with Disabilities (Article 13)	49
7.3	Health and Health Services (Article 14)	51
7.4	Survival and Development	56
7.4.1	Child and Maternal Mortality	57
7.4.2	Childhood Immunizations	58
7.4.3	Nutritional status of children under five	58



7.4.4	Post-natal and Ante-natal care	60
7.5	Social Security	60
7.6	Childcare Services and Facilities	61
7.6.1	Care for Orphans (Article 26)	61
7.6.2	The Care Reform Initiative (CRI)	61
7.7	The Nature and Extent of Co-operation with Local, National, Regional and International Organisations, concerning the implementation of the African Children's Charter	62
	Chapter Eight Education, Leisure And Cultural Activities	63
8.1	Education, Training and Guidance	63
8.1.1	Free Basic Education	63
8.2	Policies and Programmes	64
8.2.1	Science, Technology in Innovations (STI)	64
8.2.2	ICT in Education Policy, 2006	64
8.2.3	Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Policy	65
8.2.4	Inclusive Education (IE) and Special Educational Needs (SPED)	65
8.2.5	Tertiary Education Policy	65
8.2.6	Pre-Tertiary Teacher Professional Development and Management	65
8.2.7	Capitation Grant, 2005	65
8.2.8	Free School Uniform and Exercise Book Programme/Policy, 2009	66
8.2.9	Ghana School Feeding Programme, 2005	66
8.2.10	Free Mass Transit Ride for School Children	67
8.2.11	The Education Strategic Plan (ESP) 2010 – 2020	68
8.2.12	Major Achievement In Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) In Ghana	69
8.2.13	Early Childhood Education	70
8.2.14	Basic Education	72
8.2.15	Secondary High Education	73
8.2.16	Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)	74
8.2.17	The Secondary Education Improvement Project for Ghana, 2014	75



8.3	Schools With Water and Sanitary Facilities	76
8.4	School Discipline	77
8.5	Factors That May Lead Children to Be Excluded From Education	78
8.6	Measures put in place to ensure that some children are not excluded from education	78
8.7	Leisure, Recreation and Cultural Activities (Article 12)	79
8.7.1	Leisure and Recreation	79
8.7.2	Cultural Activities	80
8.8	International Cooperation in Matters Relating to Education	80
CHAPTER NINE SPECIAL PROTECTION MEASURES		82
9.1	Introduction	82
9.2	Children in Situations of Emergency (CSE)	82
9.2.1	Refugee, Returnee and Displaced Children (Articles 23 & 25)	82
9.2.2	Children in Armed Conflict	83
9.3	Children in Conflict with the Law	83
9.3.1	The Administration of Juvenile Justice	84
9.3.2	Children Deprived of Their Liberty Including any Form of Detention, Imprisonment or Placement in Custodial Settings	84
9.3.3	Sentencing of Juveniles, in Particular the Prohibition of Capital Punishment and Life Imprisonment	85
9.3.4	Reformation, Family Reintegration and Social Rehabilitation (Article 17.3)	85
9.4	Children of Imprisoned Mothers	86
9.4.1	Special Treatment to Expectant Mothers and to Mothers of Infants and Young Children who have been found Guilty by Law (Article 30)	86
9.4.2	Reformation, Integration of the Mother into the Family and Social Rehabilitation (Article 30(f))	87
9.5	Economic Exploitation Including Child Labour (Article 15)	88
9.5.1	LUTRENA Project ‘Combatting Trafficking in Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa’ (LUTRENA: 2002-07)	89
9.5.2	The West Africa Cocoa and Commercial Agriculture Project	



(2003-2006)	90
9.5.3 The Time Bound Programme (TBP) (2005-2009)	90
9.6 Drug Abuse (Article 28)	90
9.7 Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Article 27)	91
9.7.1 Sexual Exploitation	91
9.7.2 Sexual Abuse	93
9.8 Begging	94
9.9 Sale and Trafficking	95
9.10 Child Abduction	96
9.11 Children Victims of Harmful Social and Cultural Practices affecting the Welfare, Dignity, Normal Growth and Development of the Child	96
9.11.1 Early and Forced Marriage (Article 21.2)	96
9.11.2 Betrothals	97
9.11.3 National Response on Forced and Early Marriage	98
9.11.4 Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (Article 21.1(a))	98
9.12 Children Who Need Special Protection On Account Of Being In Risky Or Vulnerable Conditions And Situations	99
9.12.1 Street Children	99
9.13 HIV/AIDS Orphans (Article 26)	100
.	
CHAPTER TEN RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHILD	101
10.1 Introduction	101
10.2 Legislative measures regarding the duties of children towards the State	101
10.3 The duties of children towards the parents and the family	102
10.4 The duties of children towards the school authorities	103
10.5 The duties of children towards the community	103
REFERENCES	104



LIST OF TABLES

Table 4.1: Child Related Human Rights Cases Received by CHRAJ (2008-2013)	19
Table 6.1: Cases Involving Maintenance and Neglect Against Children (2010-2013)	37
Table 6.2: Domestic and Foreign Adoption handled by the DSW (2005-2011)	48
Table 7.1: HIV Information on Children (2005-2012)	56
Table 7.2: HIV/AIDS Data on Children Aged 15-24 (2012)	56
Table 8.1: Trend Performance of Free Mass Transportation for School Children in some major towns in Ghana	68
Table 8.2: Pre-School Enrolment Trends (2004/2005 - 2012/2013)	71
Table 8.3: Early Childhood Indicators (2006 & 2011)	72
Table 8.4: Enrolment in Kindergarten, Primary and JHS (2004/2005 – 2012/2013)	73
Table 8.5: Number of TVET Institutions by Type (2004/2005-2011/2012)	75
Table 8.6: Number of Schools with Water and Toilet (2005/2006 – 2012/2013)	77
Table 9.1: Persons Under 18 Placed in Probation Programmes for Special rehabilitation (2005-2010)	84
Table 9.2: Children held in Pre-trial Detention in the Police Stations (2005-2010)	85
Table 9.3: Distribution of Children withdrawn from Agric activities and supported	90
Table 9.4: Reported Sexual Offences Against Children (2005-2013)	94
Table 9.5: Data on Orphans (2012)	100



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 3.1: Reported Cases of Defilement (2005-2013)	11
Figure 5.1: Trend in Birth Registration (2002-2013)	22
Figure 6.1: Child Victims of Neglect and Maintenance (2005-2013)	37
Figure 6.2: Ethnicity of Kayayei	42
Figure 6.3: Number of Children Kept in DSW shelter (2005-2013)	44
Figure 6.4: Number of Children's Homes and Orphanages in Ghana (1997-2013)	45
Figure 6.5: Number of Children's Homes and Orphanages by Region (2013)	46
Figure 7.1: Number of registered children with disabilities (2002-2009)	50
Figure 7.2: Trends of under five deaths resulting from malaria (2005-2009)	51
Figure 7.3: Trends in Use of ITNs (2003-2008)	52
Figure 7.4: Number of Functional CHPS Zones (2006-2011)	53
Figure 7.5: HIV Prevalence Rates (2004-2012)	54
Figure 7.6: Infant, Child and Under Five Mortality Trends (1987-2008)	57
Figure 7.7: Maternal Mortality Trends, 2005-2011	58
Figure 7.8: Trends of Nutritional Status of Children Under Five (1988-2008)	59
Figure 7.9: Trends of Antenatal and Postnatal Care (2006-2009)	60
Figure 8.1: Number of Private Secondary High School(2005/2006 – 2011/2012)	74
Figure 8.2; Enrolment in SHS (2005/2006 – 2010/2011)	74
Figure 9.1: Number of Abduction Cases (2005 -2013)	96
Figure 9.2: Percentage of Women Married before age 18 (According to Region)	97



LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACERWC	African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
ACWRC	African Charter on the Welfare and Rights of the Child
AHTU	Anti-Human Trafficking Unit
AMA	Accra Metropolitan Assembly
ARV	Antiretroviral therapy
AU	African Union
BDR	Births and Deaths Registry
CBO	Community-Based Organizations
CHRAJ	Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice
CID	Criminal Investigations Department
CPRP	Community Population Registry Programme
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRI	Care Reform Initiative
CSE	Children in Situations of Emergency
DFID	Department for International Development
DHS	Demographic Health Survey
DOC	Department of Children
DOVVSU	Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit of the Ghana Police Service
DSW	Department of Social Welfare
ECCD	Early Childhood Care and Development Policy
ECG	Education Capitation Grant
EMIS	Education Management Information System
EPI	Expanded Programme on Immunisation
ESP	Education Sector Plan
ESP	Education Strategic Plan
FBO	Faith-Based Organisations
FCUBE	Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education Policy
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GAC	Ghana AIDS Commission
GES	Ghana Education Service
GHS	Ghana Health Service
GOG	Government of Ghana



GSFP	Ghana School Feeding Programme
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
HIV/AIDS	Human immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
HRAC	Human Rights Advocacy Centre
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IE	Inclusive Education
IE&C	Information Education & Communication
IGF	Internally Generated Funds
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IPEC	International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
IRAD	Information Research and Advocacy Division
ITN	Insecticide-Treated Mosquito Net
JHS	Junior High School
LEAP	Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty
MASLOC	Microfinance and Small Loans Centre
MDAs	Ministries Departments and Agencies
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MESW	Ministry of Employment and Social Welfare
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Sampling Survey
MMDAs	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
MMTS	Metro Mass Transits System
MoGCSP	Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection
MOH	Ministry of Health
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MOWAC	Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs
MOWSS	Ministry of Education, Science and Sports
NACOB	Narcotics Control Board
NACP	National Aids Control Programme
NADMO	National Disaster Management Organisation
NCCA	National Council for Curriculum and Assessment
NCCE	National Commission on Civic Education
NCPD	National Council on Persons with Disability
NDPC	National Development Programme Commission



NGO	Non-Governmental Organisations
NHIS	National Health Insurance Scheme
NIB	National Inspection Board
NTC	National Teaching Council
OVC	Orphans and other Vulnerable Children
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
PNDC	Provisional National Defence Council
PTA	Parent-Teacher Association
PWD	Persons with Disability
SOP	Standard Operational Procedures
SPED	Special Educational Needs
SSNIT	Social Security and National Insurance Trust
STI	Science, Technology in Innovations
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
TB	Tuberculosis
TBP	Time Bound Programme
TTDM	Teacher Professional Development and Management
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UNCRC	United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
WHO	World Health Organisation
WVI	World Vision International



FOREWORD

The Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection (MoGCSP) has a mandate to ensure gender equality through mainstreaming gender considerations in national development processes, promoting the welfare and protection of children and empowering the vulnerable, excluded, aged and persons with disability through the use of social interventions to achieve national development.

This is Ghana's initial, first and second consolidated report to the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child which accounts for the implementation of the African Charter on the Welfare and Rights of the Child from 2005 to 2013, spanning our initial and second reporting obligation period.

The African Charter on the Welfare and Rights of the Child provides a comprehensive moral, legal and programmatic framework for measuring commitments to protection of the rights of children at the national, regional and local levels.

Although the report highlights great efforts made to advance the development, participation and protection of children in Ghana, there are still gaps that need to be filled in order to achieve an environment fit for the realization of children's rights. Continuous public education is required to improve knowledge on the rights and protection needs of children. In this regard, Government will strengthen commitments in the provision of the necessary resources for the protection and development of all children in Ghana.

I hope all stakeholders will take this report as an evaluation of our progress and challenges and also use it as a tool to meet future goals.

**HON. NANA OYE LITHUR
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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The compilation of this initial and second report on Ghana's implementation of the African Charter on the Welfare and Rights of the Child has been made possible through the support and inputs of our partners; UNICEF and PLAN Ghana.

The Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection also expresses profound gratitude to our collaborators, both governmental and civil society groups, for lending us support in promoting and protecting the rights of children throughout the years. We hope this co-operation and collaboration will continue to enable us work in harmony to assure every Ghanaian Child a right start in life.

The dedication and extra working hours put in by the compilation team is acknowledged and highly applauded. We hope this hard-working spirit will persist to enable us do more to improve the wellbeing of the children in Ghana. We also express our appreciation to everyone, especially the children's groups, who worked with the team tasked to compile this report.

Our final gratitude goes to the Department of Children (DOC) and the Government of Ghana (GOG) for providing the administrative, financial, human, and material resource to prepare this report.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1. The Republic of Ghana signed and ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) on 5th February 1990 and 15th July 2005 respectively. Since the ratification of the CRC and the ACRWC, Ghana has harmonized its legislations in order to create a protective environment for the enhancement of the rights and welfare of its children.
2. Incidentally, since Ghana has not submitted its initial report, this report is consolidated; comprising three periodic reports, the initial, which was due on 15th July 2007, the first which was also due for submission on 15th July 2010, and the second which was due on 15th July 2013. It is important to note that this report covers child rights implementation over a specific period in Ghana, and so may not report on new initiatives that fall outside the review period of 2005-2013.
3. This report has been put together pursuant to Article 43, paragraph 1, of the ACRWC (Children's Charter), which makes it obligatory for every State Party to submit reports to the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) on measures adopted which gives effect to the provisions in the Children's Charter in relation to the progress of the enjoyment of rights by children.
4. Ghana's report was compiled by the Department of Children (DOC), Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP), with inputs from both Government and Non-Government Agencies.
5. The IRAD designed a topic guide based on the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) reporting guidelines and submitted it to various government and non-government agencies for relevant information, which were later put together to form the first nine chapters of the report. The tenth Chapter which focuses on the responsibilities of children was composed by children and edited by the IRAD. In four consultative fora with 100 children in Brong Ahafo, Eastern, Volta and Western Regions, children were engaged in various interactions about their responsibilities to the state, communities, school and parents. UNICEF supported this process.



1.2 Steps Taken to Implement the Charter

6. Owing to Ghana's quick ratification of the CRC in 1990, steps were already advanced prior to Ghana's ratification of the Charter in 2005. Progress was already enabled for the implementation of the Convention, which also made it possible to implement the Children's Charter. Ghana had already made significant inroads in creating systems and structures that enabled the implementation of children's rights. Since 2005, various policies, legislations, institutional reforms have been carried out in line with the tenets of the ACRWC.

1.3 Policy Formulation

7. Ghana has enhanced its policy environment in furtherance of the improvement of the protection environment of the child. This is due to the fact that major steps have been taken in formulating complementary policies that seek to facilitate the implementation of children's rights. The under mentioned can be cited:

- a) National Policy Guidelines on Orphans and Other Children made Vulnerable by HIV/AIDS
- b) Early Childhood Care and Development Policy (2004)
- c) Gender and Children Policy (2004)
- d) National Disability Policy (2000)
- e) Adolescent Reproductive Health Policy (2000)
- f) Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy II (GPRS) (2006-2009)
- g) Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (2009)
- h) National HIV & AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Policy (2013)
- i) Draft Child and Family Welfare Policy (2013)
- j) Draft Justice for Children Policy (2014)

1.4 Legislation

8. Ghana's early ratification of the CRC enabled her to promulgate various legal instruments such as the Children's Act, 1998 (Act 560), The Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29), among others. The passage of these pieces of legislation has had positive impact on the advancement on the legal environment for children's rights in



Ghana. Since 2005 when the Children's Charter was ratified, Ghana has added on to the number of child focus legislations. The under mentioned can be cited:

- a) The Human Trafficking Act, 2005 (Act 694)
- b) Person With Disability Act, 2006 (Act 715)
- c) The Domestic Violence Act, 2007 (Act 732)
- d) The Education Act, 2008 (Act778)
- e) The Ghana National Commission On Children (Repealed) Act, 2006 (Act 701)

1.5 Institutional Reforms

9. In order to implement measures that relate to child rights, a number of institutions have either been established or strengthened. For instance, the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs which was created in 2001 to advance the course of women and improve the conditions of children has been strengthened and renamed the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) by E.I 1 in 2013.
10. The creation of MoGCSP has resulted in a merger of the then Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs with the Department of Social Welfare, National Council for Persons with Disabilities and the Social Protection Division of the Ministry of Employment & Social Welfare.
11. Consequently the new MoGCSP has assumed a new and expanded mandate to ensure gender equality, promote the welfare and protection of children and to empower the vulnerable, excluded, the aged and persons with disabilities, for sustainable national development.
12. The establishment of the Ministry was a demonstration of government's commitment to protection and advancement of the needs and rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups such as the aged.
13. In addition to the main government Ministry in charge of Children, the under mentioned agencies, committees and networks also exist to play key roles by rendering services related to children's rights:
 - a) Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU) of the Ghana Police Service
 - b) Ghana AIDS Commission (GAC)
 - c) Shelter for Abused Children
 - d) Shelter for Trafficked Children



- e) Multi-Sectoral Committee on Child Protection
- f) Child Protection Networks
- g) Child Abuse Network
- h) Community Child Protection Teams
- i) National Migration Unit
- j) Human Trafficking Secretariat of MoGCSP
- k) Domestic Violence Secretariat of MoGCSP
- l) Early Childhood Secretariat of MoGCSP

14. A report was drafted and disseminated to all organizations that have a stake in child survival, protection, participation and development. The essence was to make the compilation process participatory, consultative and also generate more inputs into the report.

15. This report, which is Ghana's initial, first and second consolidated report, is divided into ten chapters. The First Chapter is an introduction which provides a broad overview of steps taken to implement the provisions of the Children's Charter and the processes for the compilation of Ghana's Initial Report. The Second Chapter provides insights into the General Measures of Implementation of the Charter. Chapter Three focuses on the Definition of The Child, and the Fourth Chapter is focused on the General Principles of the Charter. The Fifth Chapter delves into the Civil Rights and Freedoms for children. The state of children's Health and Welfare is discussed succinctly in the Sixth Chapter, and issues relating to Family Environment and Alternative Care are presented in the Seventh Chapter. The Eighth Chapter provides information on Education, Leisure and Cultural activities. Chapter Nine is on Special Protection Measures in place for children in extremely difficult circumstances, whilst the Tenth Chapter discusses the responsibilities of the Child.



CHAPTER TWO

GENERAL MEASURES OF IMPLEMENTATION

2.1 Introduction

16. Since 2005 when Ghana ratified the Charter, efforts have been made to improve the policy and legislative environment to align with the provisions of the Charter. There have been significant improvements in the establishment and strengthening of institutions with focus on child rights implementation.

2.2 Measures taken to realize the rights and welfare of the child in the policies and law or in any other international convention or agreement in force in that State

17. The 1992 Republican Constitution of Ghana provides the foundational legal recognition and protection of children's rights. Ghana has also made significant efforts to bring its domestic policies, legislation and practice in conformity with the Children's Charter, the CRC and other international protocols it is signatory to.

18. The policies and legislation introduced over the years have helped create a strong legal and institutional environment clearly demonstrated a national response to help build a strong atmosphere for the promotion and protection of children's rights.

2.3 Measures taken to promote positive cultural values and traditions and to discourage those that are inconsistent with the rights, duties and obligations contained in the Children's Charter

19. Some important national initiatives undertaken to promote positive cultural values and also discourage those that are harmful and inconsistent with the rights duties and obligations in the Children's Charter include the following:

- a) Passage of legislation
- b) Policy formulation
- c) Institutional reform/strengthening
- d) Media campaign/publicity
- e) Strong advocacy network activities
- f) Research and development.
- g) Development of various Plan of Actions, and
- h) Development of Standard Operational Procedures (SOP)



20. These initiatives have helped in enhancing people's perceptions and conceptions about negative socio-cultural practices that affect child development. In spite of the positive results, some Ghanaians still strongly adhere to some of the negative practices in the country such as early marriages and FGM. It is hoped that by sustaining these national initiatives the positive cultural values will be promoted to minimize the effects of the negative ones.

2.4 Existing or Planned Mechanisms at the National or Local level for Coordinating Policies Relating to Children and for Monitoring the implementation of the Children's Charter

21. The Department of Children of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) is responsible for coordinating and monitoring all child rights related programmes and projects in the country and is also responsible for compiling periodic reports of the situations of children to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC).
22. The DOC also collaborates with other sector ministries, departments and agencies such as health, education, security etc. that have their specific mandates and are directly responsible for their area of responsibility.

2.5 Measures taken to make the principles and provisions of the Children's Charter widely known to Adults and Children alike

23. Since Ghana ratified the Children's Charter, both State and private electronic and print media have consistently discussed aspects of the Children's Charter in their programmes and publications. Both CRC and Children's Charter, on a regular basis, form basis of topical issues discussed throughout the country. Children constitute active participants in some of these media discussions and publicity works. CURIOUS MINDS, an international award winning children's group has been very active in this respect.
24. The DOC, Department of Social Welfare (DSW) now referred to as the Department of Social Development, DOVVSU, Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) and other child-focus state and non-state agencies (NGO, CBOs, FBOs etc.) collaborate with their respective partners to organize



seminars, workshops, meetings, community durbars and other public awareness programmes aimed at promoting the rights of the child. These programmes have contributed immensely to the education and to raising the awareness of officials, community members, parents, traditional authorities, and a cross-section of children on child rights issues. The annual celebration of the Day of the African Child, the National Children's Day, The Day of the Girl Child, International Day of the Family, and The President's End of the Year Party for Children also give a major platform for the dissemination of the content of the Children's Charter.

25. A number of publications that specifically make reference to the Children's Charter and children's rights in general have also been produced to educate and inform the public about the status and situations of children in Ghana. UNICEF Ghana has assisted some State agencies with mandates on children in the printing of child rights materials such as posters, calendars, brochures, books, flyers, and other awareness creation materials, which have been circulated nationwide through workshops, community durbars and other fora.
26. Even though some level of achievement has been made in making children's rights widely known through public education, general acceptance of the ideals of the Children's Charter are yet to be realized. There is the need for continuous awareness raising, advocacy and public education to improve knowledge on the rights and protection needs of children. An increase in budgetary allocations for child-rights focused organizations would be greatly useful in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of their outputs at the national, regional, district and community levels



CHAPTER THREE

DEFINITION OF THE CHILD

3.1 Definition of the Child under Domestic Law and Regulations

27. For the purposes of the Charter, a child means every human being below the age of 18 years. This definition conforms with the age definition of the Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as the 1992 Republican Constitution of Ghana, and Section 1 of The Children's Act, 1998 (Act 560) of Ghana. Both boys and girls are equal before the laws of Ghana and this is derived from Article 17 of the Constitution, which also prohibits discrimination on grounds of gender.
28. Other definitions that need to be mentioned include age of a juvenile, voting, age for obtaining driver's license, making a will, legally allowed to take alcohol, medical counselling, admission to employment, marriage, sexual consent, voluntary enlistment in the Armed Forces, and criminal responsibility.

3.1.1 Age of a Juvenile

29. The age of a juvenile is eighteen under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2003 (Act 653).

3.1.2 Age for Voting

30. No child in Ghana is entitled to vote, until he/she attains the age for voting, which under the 1992 Constitution, is eighteen.

3.1.3 Age for obtaining Drivers License

31. The legal age at which any person can obtain a driver's licence and legally allowed to drive in Ghana, is eighteen.

3.1.4 Age for making a Will

32. The age for making a will is eighteen under the Wills Act 1971, (Act 360). ,

3.1.5 Age at which a person is legally allowed to take alcohol

33. The age at which a person can legally consume alcohol is eighteen, under the Liquor Licensing Act, 1970 (Act 331).



3.1.6 Age for Contractual Liability

34. The age for contractual liability under the Companies Code, 1963 (Act 179) is twenty-one.

3.1.7 Legal and Medical Counselling, Medical Treatment or Surgery and Parental Consent

35. Article 28 (4) of the 1992 Constitution and Section 8 (2) of the Children's Act provides for medical attention for children even when parental consent has not been given for any form of legal or medical counselling of a child. In terms of medical treatment or surgery, children can receive most forms of medical treatment without parental consent but in the case of surgery, all persons under the age of 18 must have parental consent before the surgical procedure commences.

3.1.8 Admission to Employment, Including Hazardous Work, Part-Time and Full-Time Work

36. Section 87 of the Children's Act, 1998 (Act 560) prevents a child from engagement in any form of 'exploitative labour'. Exploitative labour is any labour that deprives a child of his/her health, education or development. Sections 88, 89, 90 and 91 of the same Act, further provide details on when a child should be engaged in labour, types of labour a child should not be engaged in, and age at which a child could be engaged in 'light labour'.

37. Light work is defined as work that is not likely to be harmful to the health or development of the child and does not affect the child's attendance at school or the capacity of the child to benefit from schoolwork.

38. The minimum age for admission of a child to employment is 15, minimum age for the engagement of a child in light work is 13, and the minimum age for hazardous employment is 18.

3.1.9 Age for Marriage

39. The legal minimum age for marriage of whatever kind in Ghana is 18 years (Act 560). The Act also gives a child the right to refuse betrothal; to be a subject of a dowry or transaction and to be married under 18 years. In Ghana, forced marriage occurs where a person not within the statutorily age for marriage is induced by



another person in a capacity of parent or person in locus parentis or in any other locus through force or fraudulent means to contract a marriage. This is inconsistent with section 14 of the Children's Act, 1998 (Act 560) which is to the effect that marriage of whatever kind shall be 18 years. Section 14 of Act 560 is therefore applicable to customary marriage and marriage under CAP 129 (Mohamendan Marriage).

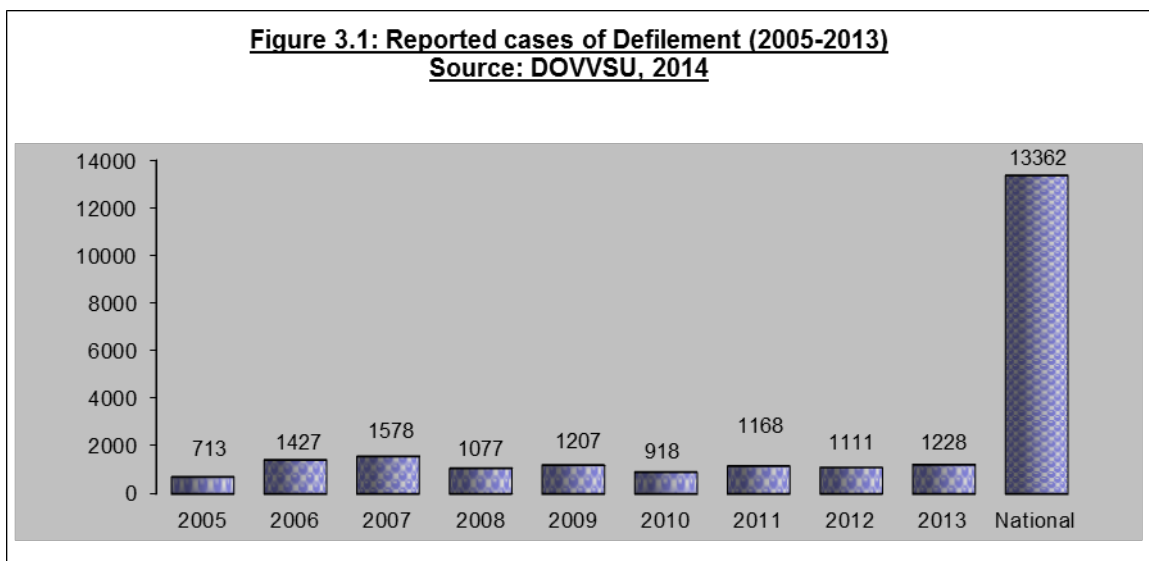
40. For marriages under Ordinance (CAP 127), provisions are to the effect that a valid marriage is contracted where the essential validity and procedural requirements are met with the minimum age for marriage under ordinance being 21 years. Section 59 of the Marriages Act therefore makes provision to the effect that the minimum age for Ordinance Marriage is 21. But where a person is below 21 years and there is evidence to the effect that no parental or necessary consent was obtained, the purported marriage shall be void.
41. The combined effect of Act 560 and CAP 127 is that a person is forced into marriage where
 - a) That person is below 18 years or
 - b) That person is more than 18 years but under 21 years and
 - c) That there was no parental or person in locus parentis consent where that person is below 21 years.
 - d) Where that person is a subject of dowry
42. The Ghana Law Reform Commission has instituted measures to harmonise all marriage laws in Ghana and will also help regulate early marital practices. In order to intensify the campaign against child marriage, MoGCSP, The Royal Netherland and UNICEF-Ghana have taken the initiative to carry out a three-year project commencing in 2014, aimed at achieving six key objectives, namely:
 - a) Establishment of a coordinating unit on early marriage within the National Domestic Violence Secretariat with a Monitoring and Evaluation system;
 - b) Development of a national strategic framework for eliminating early marriage in Ghana;
 - c) Creation of platforms for awareness-creation, experience-sharing, learning and strategizing around the elimination of child marriage;



- d) Increased public responsiveness to issues of child marriage through social communication;
- e) Strengthen response mechanisms through improved service delivery in shelters;
- f) Establish a Monitoring and Evaluation System to measure progress; enhance learning; and improve results over the duration of the project.

3.1.10 Age of Sexual Consent

43. Section 101 of the Criminal Code 1960 (Act 29) was amended in 1998 by the Criminal Code (Amendment), 1998 (Act 554), which stipulates that the legal age of sexual consent is sixteen years. Defilement of a child below sixteen years whether with or without his or her consent, constitutes an offence and the penalty on conviction is imprisonment for a period between 7 and 25 years. Between 2005 and 2013, 13,362 cases of defilement were reported to DOVVSU (Figure 3.1).



3.1.11 Voluntary Enlistment in the Armed Forces

44. In Ghana, children are not conscripted into the Army. The minimum age for enlistment into the Ghana Armed Forces is 18 in accordance with Vol. 1. Article 6.01 (1) (c) of the Armed Forces Regulations, which states that only persons between the ages of 18 and 30 shall be eligible to join the army. There is no conscription of persons under 18 into the army.

45. Ghana's Parliament at its thirty-fifth sitting on 17th July 2009 passed a resolution to ratify the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the



Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts. Ghana submitted its 'Binding Declaration' on the Protocol in August 2014, and will soon be listed as one of the State Parties that have ratified the Protocol.

3.1.12 Age of Criminal Responsibility

46. Age of criminal responsibility is 12 years, according to Section 4 of the Criminal Code (Amendment) Act, 1998 (Act 554).



CHAPTER FOUR GENERAL PRINCIPLES

4.1 Principal Legislative, Judicial, Administrative or other Measures in force to Implement the Children's Charter

47. Neither the 1992 Constitution nor any other domestic legislation specifically mention the African Children's Charter in their texts but Ghana's legislators have sought to include provisions of the African Children's Charter and the CRC in Ghana's legal system. The Children's Act, Criminal Code (Amendment) Act, and Juvenile Justice Act and some other child related legislations make provisions specifically to ensure conformity of Ghana's laws to the African Children's Charter.
48. Where the rights of the child as guaranteed under sections 3-14 of Act 560 and Chapter 5 of the Constitution, is infringed or violated, the child shall have recourse to the enforcement and realisation of such rights by bringing an application before the Family Tribunal, Circuit Court, High Court or CHRAJ for the appropriate remedy under section 35 & 65 of Act 560 and section 7 (1) (d) Act 456 and Article 218 (d) of the 1992 Constitution.
49. An action may be brought by any of the following; a parent of the child, a guardian of the child, any other person, the child, his next friend, a Probation Officer of the Department of Social Welfare (DSW), CHRAJ, DOVVSU, Family Tribunal, Juvenile Courts, the Ghana Legal Aid Scheme, Non-Governmental Organisations such as FIDA, HRAC etc. for the following remedies;
- a) negotiation and compromise between the parties concerned;
 - b) causing the complaint and its finding on it to be reported to the superior of an offending person;
 - c) bringing proceedings in a competent court for a remedy to secure the termination of the offending action or conduct or the abandonment or alteration of the offending procedures; and,
 - d) bringing procedures to restrain the enforcement of such legislation by challenging its validity if the offending action or conduct is sought to be justified by subordinate legislation or regulation which is unreasonable or otherwise ultra vires.



4.2 Factors and Difficulties Encountered and Progress Achieved in implementing the provisions of the African Children's Charter

50. This section highlights the factors that account for difficulties and progress achieved in the implementation of the provisions of the African Children's Charter.

4.2.1 Progress

51. Since 2005, when Ghana ratified the African Children's Charter, significant achievements have been made to improve the rights and welfare of children. The factors that have accounted for the progress include the under mentioned:

- a) Prevailing democratic and good governance which has allowed strong government commitment and support for the implementation of child-focused programmes. This has allowed continuity in programmes and projects initiated throughout the country for children. This would not have been possible in chaotic and conflict situations.
- b) Immense support and consistent collaboration between GOG and its development partners for implementing child rights programmes/projects
- c) Establishment and strengthening of government machinery to improve service delivery on behalf of children
- d) Increase in number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs), and Community-Based Organisations (CBO) that work in areas concerning children's protection and development
- e) The media which has been proactive and more responsive in their reportage on child related issues, thereby enhancing public awareness on current issues affecting Ghanaian children
- f) The strengthening of the policy and legislative environments through the passage of new legislations, strengthening of existing ones and formulating of policies which has guided government and its partners to be more focused on their specific mandates
- g) The progression in the mobilization of children to speak out for themselves. Children's associations and groups such as the Children and Youth in Broadcasting (CURIOUS MINDS) have proactive and outspoken in the area of child rights advocacy.



- h) The DOC has assisted some schools in the Eastern Region to establish Child Rights Clubs. The National Commission on Civic Education also has similar clubs in communities to educate on civic rights and responsibilities, whilst CHRAJ has established over 600 Human Rights Clubs across the country. CHRAJ holds regular fora to review human rights issues annually. Some few NGOs and CBOs have also established clubs to engage community members on human rights related issues. The establishment of child rights clubs by government and non-government agencies in schools and some communities has amplified publicity on children's rights in the country.

4.2.2 Difficulties

52. It is important to acknowledge that in spite of the notable achievements made, the State Party encountered some impediments and difficulties. In terms of the difficulties, the following factors have been identified:

- a) Inadequate capacity and awareness of law enforcement institutions to enforce laws and put into practice policies concerning children
- b) Limited co-operation between main child-focus agencies (both governmental and non-governmental) to partner and work on child rights issues
- c) Inadequate finance, resources, facilities, and capacities of agencies, governmental departments and ministries responsible for activities and policies concerning the welfare, protection and development of children
- d) Untimely release of funds to government agencies for activities and policies concerning the welfare, protection and development of children
- e) Inadequacy of mechanisms for planning, implementing and monitoring programmes carried out by agencies responsible for child welfare and protection
- f) Lack of effective and disaggregated information management systems on children in the country
- g) Inadequate human resource and capacity for efficient and effective delivery of child rights and protection services



4.3 Non-Discrimination (Articles 3 and 26)

53. The principle of non-discrimination is included in the 1992 Republican Constitution as a binding principle which applies equally to all persons in Ghana. Article 17 of the Constitution states that “all persons are equal before the law,” and that no person shall be discriminated against “on grounds of gender, race, colour, ethnic origin, religion or creed, social or economic status.” Article 28 (4) is emphatic on children, stating that “No child shall be deprived by any other person of medical treatment, education, or any other social or economic benefit by reason only of religious or other beliefs.
54. The principle of non-discrimination, with specific regard to its effects on children, is also protected under Section 3 of The Children’s Act, which states that “No person shall discriminate against a child on the grounds of gender, race, age, religion, disability, health status, custom, ethnic origin, rural or urban background, birth or other status, socio-economic status or because the child is a refugee”. Article 11 of the Children’s Act also emphasizes the rights of opinion of children,” No person shall deprive a child capable of forming views the right to express an opinion, to be listened to and to participate in decisions which affect his well-being, the opinion of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child”. The 1992 Constitution also endorses affirmative actions as a mechanism for addressing gender imbalances in society. The Affirmative Action Bill is currently in its second draft form, having received comments on it from the Attorney-General’s Department. A workshop was held in June 2014 with key stakeholders to discuss the second draft and move the Bill forward towards finalisation. The Bill when passed into law will improve female representation at all levels of governance, Public Boards, Commissions, Councils, Committees and Official Boards including Cabinet and Council of State.
55. In instances of violations of any of these rights, the child or the guardians of the child may take their case either to the Courts, Family Tribunals, CHRAJ, DSW, DOVVSU, MoGCSP, Legal Aid and NGOs such as HRAC, FIDA and Ark Foundation which offer legal services to the vulnerable. The judicial processes in Ghana are cumbersome and most poor people do not have access to the formal channels for justice services. Legal services are expensive, well beyond the pocket of the ordinary Ghanaian seeking justice. Cost is therefore a major challenge for



persons seeking to use the formal court processes to access justice. Women are affected when the need arise for them to access legal services. In view of this, legal aid services are also provided for women and children who cannot afford legal fees. The Ghana Legal Aid, HRAC, WISE, FIDA, Ark Foundation, WillDAF provide various types of legal aid services in order to facilitate women's access to justice. Between 2008 and April 2014, the HRAC alone has provided 2,905 clients pro bono legal services, most of them for women and children who were not in the position pay. One hundred and seventy-four (174) pro bono lawyers were involved in these legal aid services offered by the HRAC.

56. It should be noted that in spite of the fact that the laws of Ghana are not discriminatory against any vulnerable groups, social practices tend to bring out discriminatory tendencies, which affect certain vulnerable groups of children. Examples include forced early marriages, sexual abuse, non-maintenance, and other exploitation circumstances that tend to affect the growth, protection and development of girls particularly. These have often been reported by the media and other civil society groups in Ghana and have been condemned in a series of campaigns to discourage these practices.
57. Admittedly, in spite of the presence of legislation, there is much more work to be done in order to improve the living standards of children with disabilities. The plight of the girl-child in Ghana has improved significantly, and the enrolment figures in school indicate moderate improvements.
58. Some of the important steps taken to address discrimination among vulnerable groups of children include:
 - a) Public education by Government and Non-Government Agencies with mandates on children's rights.
 - b) Policy formulation
 - c) Legislation
 - d) Rehabilitation and establishment of number of schools designed for the blind, deaf and mentally handicapped children by GOG and its partners.
 - e) Identification and registration of children with disabilities by the DSW, and provision of counselling services to parents of disabled children to accept them. The DSW also assist in seeking medical help, where necessary.



- f) Running of a Community Based Rehabilitation Programme that integrates the disabled into mainstream society by the DSW
- g) The passage of The Persons with Disability Law and establishment of a Council for Persons with Disability

4.4 Best Interests of the Child (Article 4)

59. The Principle of Best Interest of the Child is espoused in the Constitution and other legislation such as The Children's Act, The Juvenile Justice Act and The Matrimonial Causes Act, 1971 (Act 367) amongst others. According to sub-section (2) of section 2 of the Children's Act, all courts are bound to take the principle as a guiding standard in all decisions taking in cases that relate to children. To give effect to this statutory provision, the courts in Ghana have consistently held in matrimonial causes such as divorce, custody, maintenance and in testamentary disposition as well as in intestacy cases that the interest of the child is most paramount.
60. The Children's Act also ensures that all agencies with mandates for the care and protection of children adhere to the principle in their working practices in order to ensure the child's interest in all decisions concerning them. For example, in the formulation of child health-related policies and during the delivery of services to children the best interest of the child is sought. In some situations where parents have refused routine immunisation for their children or denied blood donation on the grounds of religion, all means have been explored, mostly through dialogue with traditional, opinion and religious leaders to ensure that the best decision is taken for the child's best interest.
61. CHRAJ records indicate that most of the human rights cases received are child related. Between 2008 and 2010, approximately 40.4 percent (13,905) of the 34,383 human rights cases received were child related (Table 4.1). In all cases, the principle of the best interest of the child was applied. From the experience gathered the courts and other institutions also apply these principles.



Table 4.1: Child Related Human Rights Cases Received by CHRAJ (2008-2013)

Year	Number of human Rights cases	Number of child related human rights cases	Percentage of the human rights cases that are child related
2008	11,323	4,665	41
2009	11,176	4,472	40
2010	11,884	4,768	40
2011	11,230	4,411	39
2012	10,183	4,110	40
2013	10,576	4,002	38
Total	66,372	26,428	40

Source: CHRAI, Accra, 2014.

62. The records and database of DOVVSU also indicates reported cases of various child rights abuses and infractions such as rape, defilement, non-maintenance, sodomy, child marriage etc..
63. While Ghana has made efforts to ensure that the principle of best interest is considered in the legislative and administrative activities that concern children, there are a number of difficulties remaining in this respect. These include, lack of knowledge of the principle, its application and inadequate resources to carry out public education.

4.5 Respect for the views of the child (Article 7)

64. Ghana's legislation acknowledges respect for the views of the child. Section 11 of the Children's Act reads: "No person shall deprive a child capable of forming views the right to express an opinion, to be listened to and to participate in decisions which affect his well-being, the opinion of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child." This thereby grants the child the right to express an opinion in any matter which affects it, whether it be in family life, school life, judicial proceedings, placement and life in institutional and other forms of care, or asylum-seeking procedures.
65. In the specific case of judicial proceedings affecting the child, the child's right to express an opinion is ensured. Apart from section 11 of the Children's Act, Section 38 of the same Act, outlines the rights of the child at family tribunals. Sub-Section 2 of the section reads: "A child shall have a right to give an account and express an



opinion at a Family Tribunal.” Children can also bring complaints, either directly or through an intermediary, to the CHRAJ for consideration.

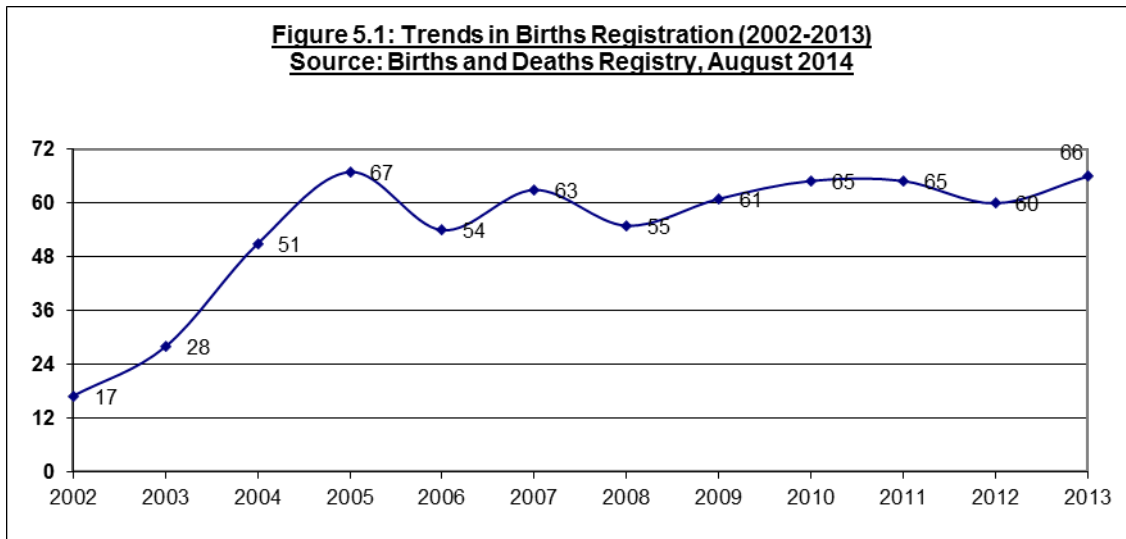
66. In spite of the legal provisions, within many Ghanaian families the views of the child are not generally taken into account when crucial decisions of the family are taken. There is compelling evidence from media reports that in some Ghanaian communities’ children are still seen and not heard. In many families, children views are still considered as immature and thus not given the necessary reverence.
67. Ghana has a long way to go to ensure that children find their voice in issues that affect their development. Traditions die hard, despite the fact that general recognition of children’s view may be increasing. Subject to family influences, most Ghanaian children enjoy freedom of association and right to play and families mostly ensure protection of privacy of their children.
68. Notwithstanding, the challenges, a lot of achievements have been made to take the views of children on board in national and domestic issues. In recent times, considerable efforts have been made to involve children in policy issues. Some of the examples that can be cited are the Water and Oil forum held in 2010 at the College of Surgeons in Accra, in which children were actively involved to add their voices to the decisions taken. During Ghana’s recent Constitutional review exercise, a special session was held exclusively for children to make inputs. To meet children’s demands, two consultants have been engaged to help the Constitutional Review Committee put together their report and ensure it reflects issues raised by children during the interactions.
69. Through child right clubs, Easter Schools for children, celebration of calendar events such as African Union (AU) Day of the African Child, National Children’s Day, International Day of the Family etc. children have been educated on their rights and their capacity has been built to ensure that their rights are not trampled upon. Teachers and parents have also been and continue to be sensitised to respect the views of children.



CHAPTER FIVE CIVIL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

5.1 Name, Nationality, Identity and Registration at Birth (Article 6)

70. Birth registration is very critical for child development and both the ACRWC and the CRC place emphasis on it. Article 7 of the CRC states that “The child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name and the right to acquire a nationality and, as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents.” The ACRWC also states in Article 6 section 2 that ‘Every child shall be registered immediately after birth’.
71. The Births and Deaths Registration Act of 1965, (Act 301) established the current births and deaths registration system. The Act makes the registration of births and deaths compulsory in all regions of the country. In order to make registration facilities accessible to a larger section of the population, the Births and Deaths Registry has offices in the regions, districts and several communities.
72. Information provided by the Births and Deaths Registry (BDR) indicates that births registration has improved since the last decade. According to the BDR there has been significant improvement in data collection and management of information on children at the national, regional and district levels since 2002. In the year 2002, the coverage of birth registration was 17 percent nationwide. By the end of 2005, the coverage had risen to 67 percent, a remarkable improvement of 50 percent. Incidentally, the figure dropped to 54 percent by the end of 2006, shot up again to 63 percent in 2007, and dropped to 55 percent in 2008. The coverage improved to 61 percent in 2009 and by the end of 2013, had again risen to 66 percent as seen in Figure 5.1.



73. The improvement in births registration from 17 percent in 2002 to 66 percent in 2013 was as a result of the under mentioned measures undertaken:

- a) Free registration of new born babies within twelve months of delivery
- b) Recognition of a “Birth Registration Day” every 1st September as an annual calendar event to educate the public on the importance of registering infants
- c) Intensification of public education at national, district and community levels to sensitize and also encourage Ghanaians to register their births and deaths.
- d) Production of Information Education & Communication materials (T-Shirts, stickers, leaflets, posters etc.) for community level sensitization
- e) Involvement of the media in all publicity activities
- f) Modernization of the births and deaths system
- g) Implementation of the “Community Population Registry Programme” (CPRP) to sensitize community residents, take baseline demographic data, build a population register, which is updated periodically.

74. The Births and Deaths Registry (BDR) has human and financial constraints in implementing its programmes, in spite of government and other support received from development partners such as UNICEF. The problem of ignorance and inaccessibility of registration service in certain parts of the country, still affects births and deaths registration in Ghana. It is difficult for the BDR to readily conduct investigation into unreported events because of financial and human resource capacities. The BDR has adopted a number of interventions to reach out to the general public with information on registration and make registration services more



accessible to the population. Special attention is given to the hard to reach areas of the country. The Registry has also intensified its public education at national, regional, district and community levels to sensitize and also motivate Ghanaians to register their births and deaths. Materials have also been developed for community level sensitization activities. These include T-shirts, stickers, leaflets, posters and others. The media has also been very pro-active in all these publicity activities. Data on registered births from the regions, especially in the rural communities have indicated a steady increase in infant registration figures in the months following the removal of the fees.

75. Achieving universal birth registration would require a great deal of collaboration in Ghana. The BDR has forged collaborative ties with its partners, both Governmental and Non-Governmental, to carry out registration. A number of organizations have played significant roles in this collaborative network. These include the Ministry of Health which trains Community Health Nurses to assist with collection of information on births nationwide; the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Environment helping to train Unit Committee members to assist with birth registration, and the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection and the media assisting with publicity and awareness-raising.

5.1.1 Challenges of Births and Deaths Registration

76. The major challenges confronting the BDR in achieving its goals are inadequate staff and logistics, lack of motivation on the part of the public to register births and deaths, low coverage of registration, inadequate funding of activities of the Registry, and the adherence to traditional and socio-cultural practices in certain parts of the country that tend to affect registration of children at birth.

5.1.2 Recommendations on Births Registration

77. The following have been recommended to improve births registration in Ghana:
- a) Availability of funds for programme implementation
 - b) Intensification of public education on the importance of births and deaths registration at the national, regional, district and community levels
 - c) Development of advocacy, information, education and communication materials for community level sensitization activities



- d) Involvement of civil society organisations (including the media and non-governmental organisations) in promotion and publicity
- e) Improvement of the data registration system

5.2 Freedom of Expression (Article 7)

78. Article 21 (1) (a) of the Constitution, guarantees to all persons the rights of speech and expression, which includes freedom of the press. Section 11 of the Children's Act also provides that "no person shall deprive a child capable of forming views the right to express an opinion, to be listened to and to participate in decision affecting his well-being, the opinion of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child."
79. Young people in Ghana exercise their right to expression through diverse avenues. Children are given the opportunity to freely express their opinions through the radio, television and the print media. Aspects of the CRC and the African Children's Charter, on a daily basis form the foundation of topical issues discussed by both State and private electronic and print media throughout the country and children constitute active participants in some of these media discussions such as the *Junior Graphic* newspaper.
80. Children and Youth in Broadcasting (CURIOUS MINDS) and Child Rights International are example of child NGOs that are very active and expressive on behalf of children's course. Within the reporting period, children's groups in the country were involved in high level policy decision interventions. For instance, they were engaged in various platforms leading to the formulation of policies and passage of laws such as the Adolescent Health Policy, the Child Labour Policy, The Human Trafficking Act, The Domestic Violence Act, and the compilation of the 3rd, 4th and 5th Consolidated Report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. CURIOUS MINDS produced abridged versions of The Domestic Violence Act, The Children's Act and The Human Trafficking Act.
81. Children are also key actors in sensitizing their peers on the dangers of STIs and other immoral behaviours that affect the proper growth and development of children (MOWAC 2012). There has been an increase in number of child-rights clubs in schools, children and youth clubs in Ghana, most of them trained by MoGCSP and National Commission on Civic Education (NCCE) on CRC, ACWRC, leadership



skills and on methods of influencing policy at local, national and international levels.

82. Some of the children's clubs, especially, CURIOS MINDS, and Child Rights International have utilized knowledge gained in propagating civil rights issues that affect the child in different operational communities in Ghana. From a single programme on national radio, CURIOS MINDS now handles six different programmes targeted at addressing children and young people's issues. Children are directly involved in determining the topical issues to be discussed on air. The topics are dovetailed into the principles of children's rights and responsibilities. CURIOS MINDS won two prestigious media awards; one for being the best Youth Broadcasting Programme in the world, and the other for being the best Youth Broadcasting in Africa in 2008. The award was again won in Africa in 2009 by the same youth group.

5.3 Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion (Article 9)

83. Freedom of thought, conscience and religion is expressed in Article 21 (1) of the Constitution, whilst Article 28 (4) also prohibits deprivation on reason of religious or other beliefs. The Children's Act also makes similar provisions on freedom of thoughts, conscience and religion under section 11.

5.4 Freedom of Association and of Peaceful Assembly (Article 8)

84. In Ghana, children have freedom of association and peaceful assembly, and is expressed in Article 21 (1) (d) and (e) of the Constitution. It states that all persons shall have the right to "(d) freedom of assembly including freedom to take part in processions or demonstrations; (e) freedom of association, which shall include freedom to form or join trade unions or other associations, national and international, for the protection of their interests". There are no restrictions on the conditions under which children are allowed to join or form associations.
85. Restrictions on assembly, again, apply only to those who are still children but above the age of criminal responsibility, and who contravene any law or engage in any activity that may forfeit his or her right to assembly, meeting the conditions for removal of fundamental freedoms outlined under Article 21 (4) of the Constitution. Currently, numerous children's organizations exist, such as the Boys and Girls



Brigade, Boys Scouts, Wildlife Clubs, Child Rights Clubs, Girl Guides, Cultural Clubs/Troupes, Colt Sporting Clubs, AIDS Clubs and many others. These associations play very significant roles in advocating and disseminating information on the rights and freedoms of children.

5.5 Protection of Privacy (Article 10)

86. The protection of privacy, family, home or correspondence is guaranteed under the Constitution, the Children's Act and the Criminal Code Amendment Act of 1998. Article 18 (2) of the Constitution reads: "No person shall be subjected to interference with the privacy of his home, property, correspondence or communication except in accordance with law and as may be necessary in a free and democratic society for public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the protection of health or morals, for the prevention of disorder or crime or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others." No special restrictions for children are included beyond that mentioned. The Children's Act and the Juvenile Justice Act protect the right to privacy in civil and criminal judicial proceedings (MOWAC, 2004).
87. The Ghana Media Commission has media guidelines that seek to protect vulnerable groups such as children. The guidelines protect the privacy, unnecessary intrusion and the use of photographs of children in news stories. Specifically, the press is prevented from identifying children who are involved in cases concerning sexual offences, whether as victims, suspects or as witnesses. This is done to ensure unnecessary exposure of the child to the public and protect the privacy of the child.

5.6 Protection Against Child Abuse and Torture (Article 16)

88. The laws of Ghana protect children from abuse, torture and other degrading treatment or punishment, and this is emphatically expressed under Article 15 of the Constitution, which states that the dignity of all persons shall be inviolable. No person whether or not he is arrested, restricted or detained shall be subjected to torture, or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, or punishment and other condition that detracts or is likely to detract from his dignity and worth as a human being. Juvenile offenders are guaranteed the right to be kept in lawful custody in cells specially designed for them. Furthermore, Article 28(3) provides that "a child



shall not be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment”.

89. Other child related legislations such as The Children’s Act, Human Trafficking Act and the Domestic Violence Act, all make specific provisions for the protection of children from various forms of abuse and torture.

5.7 Child Protection System

90. Steps have been taken to strengthen the child protection system in the country. This is in response to the Child Protection Systems Mapping conducted in 2010 by the Department of Social Welfare with support from UNICEF. Subsequently, the government of Ghana and its partners has started developing a Child and Family Welfare Policy and Justice for Children Policy fit for Ghana. Some of the activities carried out to strengthen the child protection system include:

- a) The establishment of an Advisory Committee with its Secretariat at the Department of Children to guide the process
- b) The commissioning of two baseline studies to provide essential data and to influence the direction of the two Policies.
- c) Organisation of stakeholder consultations nationwide to obtain community input from over 7,000 Ghanaians in selected districts and communities across the country, and to galvanize public support for the policy. Traditional leaders, members of the media, children and heads and representatives of government agencies have also been engaged in the same process.
- d) The commissioning of the Child Justice Policy development and inauguration of an Advisory Committee to guide the process. The framework for the policy has already been drafted
- e) The development of a community facilitation manual aimed at introduction the child protection concept at the community level. The primary focus of the initiative is to equip frontline community development workers of district assemblies, community based agencies with relevant knowledge and techniques in handling child protection issues at the local level.



91. The Child and family welfare system strengthening is being supported mainly by the Government of Ghana and UNICEF. Other partners such as the World Vision and Plan Ghana have also assisted in providing various forms of resources towards the process.



CHAPTER SIX

FAMILY ENVIRONMENT AND ALTERNATIVE CARE

6.1 Parental Guidance (Article 20)

92. The laws of Ghana set standards to guide the placement of children in the family environment and alternative care. The Children's Act provides guidelines on how children should be placed in a family environment and/or alternative care. Generally, Ghanaian tradition places the socialisation of the child on the whole family. Every member of a typical Ghanaian family plays some role in the rearing and upbringing of children.
93. The legal and cultural framework, however, places a duty on family members, especially biological parents, to provide the basic necessities of life for the child. These may include the child's education, healthcare, food and nutrition, shelter, clothing, warmth and affection. Section 15 of the Children's Act makes it a punishable offence for a parent or guardian to neglect his or her responsibility towards a child. Additionally, adoptive or foster parents are legally bound to provide maintenance for and guidance of that child. All cases of child neglect and lack of maintenance are reported to the DSW and the DOVVSU for amicable redress.
94. In situations where the conditions of the home environment are not suitable to ensure the best interest of the child, the child is placed in the custody of fit persons or in children's home. The Children's Act and the Intestate Succession Law, PNDC Law 111 of 1985 also make provision for the child where his or her parent(s) have died.
95. Alternative care is also available for children faced with extreme difficult family circumstances, and these are placed in children's homes, orphanages, and other juvenile homes, if the child in question needs to be incarcerated. The DSW is the state agency responsible for ensuring that children are provided homes or family in situations of neglect and deprivation. Based on the decisions of the DSW, a child may be placed for adoption, care placement or fosterage for protection and maintenance.
96. There are five public (2 of which are subvented) institutional homes for children, whilst about 3,388 children are in the Children's Homes/Orphanages in Ghana (DSW, 2011). There is a National Plan of Action for OVC (2010-2015) and Best



practice Guidelines/Standards for regulating Homes/Orphanages and ensure that the children are well catered for.

6.2 Parental Responsibility (Article 20.1)

97. Parental responsibility is stipulated in the laws of Ghana. Sections 5 and 6 of the Children's Act assure every child the right to grow up with his or her parents and family, unless it is proven in court that living with his or her parents would be against the best interests of that child. Failure to exercise parental responsibility has also been criminalised under section 79 of the Criminal Code (Amendment) Act 1998, (Act 554). Section 29 Section 71 of the Criminal Offences Act also requires parents or guardians to ensure the safety of their children and liability for that offence is deemed misdemeanour. These laws take into consideration the principles of non-discrimination, respect for the views of the child and the maximum development of the child (MOWAC, 2004).

98. In order to render support to families that are challenged to carry out their respective family responsibilities, the government of Ghana considers it important to ensure that parents are supported to play their roles as responsible parents. The government has initiated family support schemes to alleviate poverty and place parents and families in a better position to provide for the basic needs of their children.

99. Of all the Social Protection initiatives, the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) social cash transfer programme, is the flagship which has also made significant progress in alleviating household poverty since its inception. The under mentioned are some major achievements of LEAP:

- a) Initiated the establishment of a National Targeting Unit/office to facilitate data collection and identification of beneficiaries for all Social protection interventions in Ghana including the LEAP.
- b) Adoption of a National Common Targeting Mechanism
- c) Development of Social Protection Policy in progress
- d) MoGCSP has submitted a Cabinet memorandum and received approval to expand LEAP coverage. At the close of 2013, LEAP was covering 72,780 households in 100 districts. The target is to reach 100,000 households by the end of 2014. Seven thousand six hundred and sixteen (7,616) beneficiaries



received electronic payment of LEAP grants piloted in 3 ecological zones. The World Bank is supporting this initiative

- e) Introduction of *LEAP 1000 Project* (sponsored by USAID), which covers the three Northern regions focuses on preventing stunting in children aged 0-3 years. *LEAP 1000* seeks to provide medical support for the first 1000 days of new-born babies in some selected communities in the Northern Region. Seven thousand (7000) pregnant women and mothers with babies under two years will benefit from the project.

100. Other social protection support schemes include:

- a) Micro-finance loans disbursed by MOWAC to traders, business women, hair dressers, seamstress in 2007
- b) The Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC) is also another agency that is involved in the provision of micro finance loans to Ghanaians to help them improve their status economically.
- c) The Education Capitation Grant (ECG) under Ministry of Education
- d) Free school uniforms and Exercise books distributed to children in deprived areas and, school feeding programmes implemented under Ministry of Education
- e) Free bus rides for school children at the Primary and Junior High School levels on weekdays by the Metro Mass Transit Company
- f) Free maternal delivery programme
- g) National Health Insurance Scheme
- h) Labor Intensive Public Works implemented under the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
- i) The Exempt Category under the National Health Insurance Scheme implemented under Ministry of Health
- j) Pro-Poor interventions for poor peasant farmers including Block Farming under the Ministry of Food and Agric.
- k) Local Enterprise and Skills Development Programme (LESDEP)
- l) National Youth Employment Programme/Ghana Youth Employment and Enterprise Development Programme



101. In spite of these important steps taken by government and its partners, there are still a significant number of families in Ghana that are facing varying difficulties in carrying out family responsibilities. Some challenges of Ghanaian families include single and poor parenting, general socio-economic constraints, weak family ties, scourge of HIV, which is creating childhood vulnerability. In line with this, a Child and Family Welfare Policy has been proposed by government to address some of the challenges faced by families in protecting and caring for children.

6.2.1 Challenges in Addressing Parental Responsibility by DSW and DOVVSU

102. Agencies that see to addressing issues regarding parental responsibility have also got their challenges in ensuring the roles that they are to play effectively. For instance, the DSW which plays reconciliatory role in family maintenance does not have adequate funding for monitoring. It also lacks legal backing to prosecute parents who fail to maintain their families. Some recalcitrant parents fail to provide maintenance even when the DSW has given the order. Again, in situations where parents refuse to provide maintenance such parents are taken to the public tribunal and it is the DSW that provide financial support to some of the victims of lack of maintenance. This serves as a strain on the scarce budget of the DSW.

103. DOVVSU is usually brought in when parents refuse to provide maintenance for their children. DSW officers are attached to all DOVVSU offices to work on maintenance related cases. Some victims of non-maintenance refuse to report their case owing to the inconveniences they encounter in reporting. For instance, most of the DSW offices within DOVVSU lack space, which does not augur well for confidentiality. Often, victims with issues that require privacy would not want to discuss it in the open. The only option for them is to refuse to report.

104. DOVVSU is also not in all communities, and so cases are either sent to the nearest DOVVSU office or to an ordinary police station where officers who handle the cases are not properly trained and so have no competence in dealing with them. These challenges gravely affect the work of DSW, DOVVSU and as a result victims of maintenance are discouraged from reporting.

105. DOVVSU currently has over 100 Offices and Desks nationwide in some Divisions and Districts of the Ghana Police Service. DOVVSU's target is to establish Desks in all Police Stations and Posts, which number over 700



countrywide. The activities of all the DOVVSU Offices and Desks are coordinated from the National Secretariat at the Ghana Police Headquarters in Accra.

6.3 Separation from Parents

6.3.1 Separation Caused by State Party

106. Article 19(1) of the Children’s Charter states ‘that every child shall be entitled to the enjoyment of parental care and protection and shall, whenever possible, have the right to reside with his or her parents. No child shall be separated from his/her parents against his/her will, except when a judicial authority determines in accordance with the appropriate law, that such separation is in the best interest of the child.’ In accordance with this article, section 5 of the Children’s Act of Ghana assures children of the right to grow up with their parents unless it is established that it is not in the best interests of the child.
107. Under this section, a court of law disallows separation of the child from its parents unless living with its parents would: “(a) lead to significant harm to the child; (b) subject the child to serious abuse; (c) not be in the best interest of the child.” Such a determination must be made by a competent authority. Section 19 of the Children’s Act also mandates the DSW to investigate all suspected and actual cases of abuse and neglect. In the same Act, both Child Panels and Family Tribunals have been given the mandate to determine matters of access, custody, paternity and maintenance.
108. Section 44 of the Children’s Act also ensures that a child who is separated from one or both parents can maintain personal relations with them, unless it will not be in the best interests of the child. It states: “A parent, family member or any person who has been caring for a child may apply to a family tribunal for periodic access to the child.” The guidelines for the review of such a request are outlined under section 45, and include consideration of the best interest of the child and the importance of a young child to be with his mother. The Family Tribunal may also consider the age of the child, whether or not the views of the child were independently given and whether it will be in the best interest of the child for him or her to be with either of his or her parents. In custody, maintenance and divorce proceedings, the Courts where applicable insist that the views of the child should be considered before a determination or an order is made in respect of that case.



6.3.2 Separation caused by Internal Displacement Arising from Armed Conflicts Civil Strife, or Natural Disasters

109. Ghana's laws provide for the care and protection of children who are temporarily or permanently internally displaced. Such children are entitled to special protection and assistance provided by the State. Separation of children may be caused when people are internally displaced. This usually arises when people or groups of individuals are forced to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of, or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or disaster – both natural and manmade – and who have not crossed the country's international borders.
110. The main cause of internal displacement in Ghana is ethnic conflicts, and occasionally natural disasters such as flooding. Relatively, Ghana enjoys peace and stability, and as a result has not experienced any prolonged armed conflict situations. Incidentally, there have been some occurrences of chieftaincy disputes and ethnic conflicts, which result in people being internally displaced. The incidents in Bawku, Nkonya-Alavanyo, Peki-Tsito land conflict, Abotia Chieftaincy conflict, Nafana-Ntora, Yendi, Gushiegu and Bunkurugu-Yooyoo ethnic clashes can be cited.
111. The National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO) is the state agency responsible for the management of disasters and similar emergencies. In addition, NADMO performs the following functions:
- a) Coordination of the activities of various bodies in the management of disasters;
 - b) Rehabilitation of persons affected by disasters;
 - c) Social mobilization, especially at the community level to support various Government programmes, such as the poverty reduction programme as well as those aimed at the management of disasters.
 - d) Ensuring that the country is prepared to prevent disasters and manage them well when they occur.
112. In order to be able to play its role meaningfully by offering suitable assistance in times of emergencies, NADMO offices have been established throughout the



country¹. NADMO collaborates with the security services and other agencies as and when a disaster situation arises. NADMO is currently faced with huge operational challenges making it difficult to carry out its disaster management operations effectively.

6.3.2 Family Reunification and Children Deprived of a Family Environment (Article 25.2(b))

113. Article 25.2(b) of the Children's Charter requires State Parties to take all necessary measures to trace and re-unite children with parents or relatives where separation is caused by internal and external displacement arising from armed conflicts or natural disasters. The Children's Act provides that every child has the right to live and grow up with his or her parents. The Act also states further that nobody should deny the child the right to be with its parents unless it is proved by a court of law that the parent is insane and abuses the child or exposes the child to moral and physical danger. Within this context, any application for family reunification whether internal or external takes into account the best interest of the child and is dealt with expeditiously.
114. In times of disaster, NADMO collaborates with its local and international partners such as the International Committee of the Red Cross, UNHCR and other relief agencies to work expeditiously to trace parents or children as the case may be and reunite them.

6.3.4 Separation Caused by Human Trafficking

115. There are instances when children are separated from their families as result of human trafficking. The Human Trafficking Act has specific provisions for the rescue, counseling, tracing, and rehabilitation of trafficked persons (including the child), and the roles to be played by government agencies such as the MoGCSP, Police Service, and the District Assemblies in the processes.
116. An Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) has been established within the Ghana Police Service purposely to respond promptly to trafficking in person cases through speedy investigation, arrest and prosecution of offenders as well as rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of human trafficking. Each of the ten

¹http://mint.gov.gh/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=28&Itemid=42



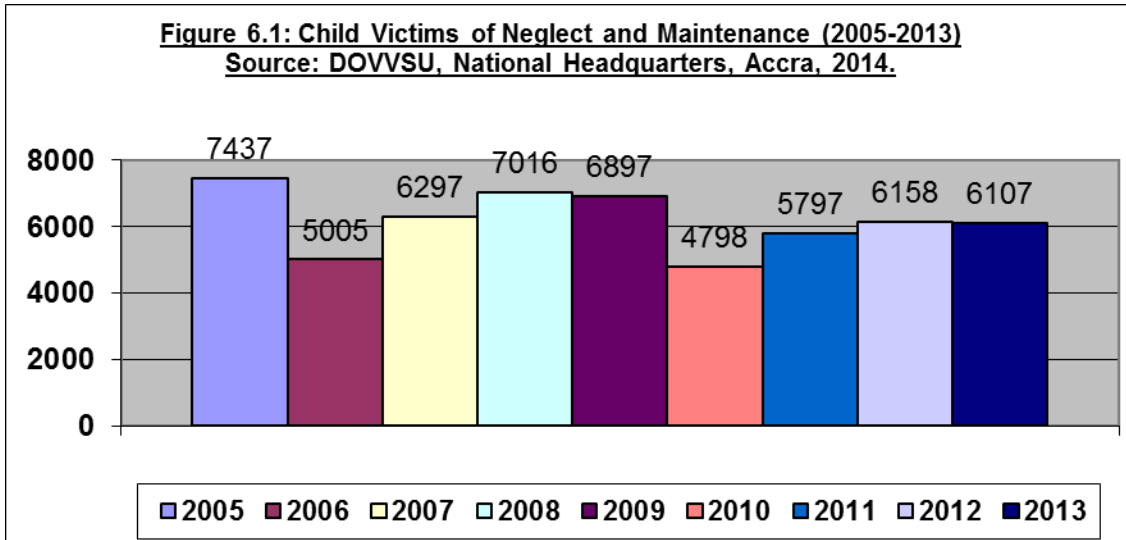
regions has an AHTU, except Greater which has one in Accra and another in Tema. The under mentioned were achieved by the AHTUs between 2005 – 2013:

- a) Through increased awareness and educational campaigns, over 110 cases of human trafficking were recorded nationwide
- b) Eighty five (85) cases were investigated
- c) Three (3) cases of human trafficking were prosecuted, and all the 3 cases obtained convictions
- d) The AHTUs, together with its partners have advocated for the inclusion of trafficking in persons as a model in the curricular of the Ghana Police Service Training School. Officers of the Unit teach the model in the Police Training College

117. Major inroads have been made to address human trafficking in the country within the reporting period. For instance, the Human Trafficking Secretariat of MoGCSP has finalized Legislative Instrument (LI) on Human Trafficking Act 694, Regulation to be submitted to the Parliamentary Subsidiary Select Committee on Legislation for final validation. This will facilitate it laying before Parliament.
118. A Database on human trafficking has also been designed and setup. The Secretariat has intensified its investigations into human trafficking, and between 2010 and 2012, two hundred and ten (210) cases were investigated of which sixteen (16) were prosecuted.
119. A referral system for victims of trafficking has also been developed, and rehabilitation, counseling and reintegration services offered to trafficked children.

6.4 Maintenance of the Child (Article 18.3)

120. Naturally, it is the responsibility of parents to provide maintenance for their children. Incidentally, however, some children are denied their rights to maintenance resulting from neglect. Neglect and failure to provide maintenance for children constitute the most common form of child abuse in Ghana. DOVVSU records indicate that between 2005 and 2013, a total number of 55,512 cases of neglect and maintenance cases were reported (Figure 6.1).



121. DOVVSU records also indicate that females are often victims of child neglect and maintenance than males (Table 6.1). Between 2010 and 2013, of the 20,831 maintenance cases that were reported to DOVVSU, 91.3 percent of all the cases involved females who were neglected by male family members (spouses, siblings and other close relatives). This may seem to suggest that males are the main culprits in cases that relate to neglect and irresponsibility in the care and upkeep of children.

Table 6.1: Cases involving Maintenance and Neglect Against Children (2010-2013)

Year	Male	Percent	Female	Percent
2010	403	8	4479	92
2011	495	8.5	5332	91.5
2012	423	7	5538	93
2013	664	10.8	5482	89.2
Total	1,985	8.7	20,831	91.3

Source: DOVVSU Secretariat, 2014.

122. In Ghana when parents fail to guarantee adequate maintenance of children, government authorities such as the DSW and DOVVSU intervene to ensure recovery of any payments towards the maintenance of the child from the parents. Measures taken to ensure that maintenance is paid include the following:

- a) Where a working individual is found by the DSW to be shirking his or her responsibilities to maintain his or her children, his or her employer is notified of his or her employee's irresponsibility. The DSW then agrees with the employer to have the maintenance payments deducted from the



employee's salary at source, for the upkeep and care of the children in question.

- b) Family Tribunals also make orders to compel parents, guardians or other care-givers to look after the best interests of the children in their care. The court may also, while hearing maintenance cases, grant not only custody but also order payment of maintenance for such children.
- c) In cases where the parents or legal guardians of a child simply cannot provide for the child, the services of charitable organizations, the community, the District Assembly, and NGOs are relied upon.

123. Legally, 'maintenance' covers all children less than eighteen years unless a child under that age is employed and earns income. However, persons above eighteen years who are still in school or undergoing some form of training still qualify to enjoy maintenance from their parents under the traditional system as well as protection from harm (which includes denial of the necessities of life) under the Criminal Code.

6.5 Adoption and Periodic Review of Placement (Article 24)

6.5.1 Adoption

124. The DSW places children without parental care (children with no one to care for them) with interested persons and processes reports to the courts for the legalisation of the adoption, to ensure that the children are not thrown out of the family, even after the death of the adoptive parent. During this period, if DSW finds out that the adoptive parent(s) and the placed child are incompatible, the child will be returned to the DSW.

125. The applicable law and procedures on adoption are in the Children's Act, sections 65 to 86 and the Adoption Rules. The Act outlines the following: jurisdiction and procedure for adoption; application for adoption; restrictions on making adoption orders; consent of parents and guardians; other consent; conditions for adoption order; interim order; knowledge of adoption by child; application by non-citizen; children previously adopted; effect of adoption on parental rights.

126. Section 70 (1) (b) of the Children's Act states that before a court grants an adoption order, it will be satisfied that the adoption "is in the best interests of the



child and that the wishes of the child have been considered if the child is capable of forming an opinion.” The application to adopt a child may be made to the High Court, Circuit Court or to any Family Tribunal with jurisdiction where the applicant or the child resides at the date of application (section 65).

127. In contrast to local adoption, the procedure for inter-country adoption has become more stringent under the Children’s Act to reflect international standards, than it was under the previous law. Under the Children’s Act an order of adoption may be not be granted to a non-citizen who is single. In addition to this, an adoption order cannot be granted to a foreigner unless the foreign applicant and the child are both resident in Ghana. Adoption orders for non-citizens are also affected by the restrictions and interim orders that can be imposed on citizens. The relevant portions may be found from sections 65 to 78 of the Children’s Act.
128. The DSW does the following before a court grants an adoption order:
- (a) Investigates the background of the couples who want to adopt, to determine their financial and social status and their living conditions before placing children with them. Within the first-three months of placement, the DSW visits the adoptive parents placed with children to ascertain the compatibility of the child and the adoptive parent (s).
 - (b) The principle of the best interest of the child is always ensured even in the case of relative adoption. The child is interviewed and the process is explained to him or her in the language within the capacity of his or her understanding.
129. The government of Ghana has introduced new measures to streamline adoption procedures in Ghana. MoGCSP constituted a committee to investigate cases involving adoption in Ghana. A moratorium was also placed in May, 2013 to streamline and standardize adoption processes/procedures for better transparency and accountable system that works to protect the best interest of the child. A Central Office has been created at the head office of the DSW to double-check on pre-court adoption and foster care processes and to clear such documentations by DSW officers in the regions before proceeding to apply to court for adoption of a child.



6.5.2 Periodic Review of Placement

130. Before placement is effected, applicants are interviewed, taking the following into account:

- a) Applicant(s) home, living conditions, employment history and means of livelihood.
- b) Whether applicant(s) has/have any criminal record and any other information which should be in the best interest of the child.
- c) Whether applicant(s) has/have suffered from tuberculosis and whether there is any history of epilepsy or mental illness in the family of the applicant(s).
- d) Whether the applicant(s) is/are addicted to any narcotic drugs.

131. Placement duration is not less than three months and not more than six months. During this period if the applicants find the placed child to be incompatible they can return the child to the DSW. As far as practicable, the principle of the best interest of the child is adhered to. If the child is of age and can understand the issue, the situation is explained and consent is elicited before placement.

6.6 Abuse, neglect, exploitation including physical and psychological recovery and social integration (Articles 16 and 27)

132. Children are protected by law from all forms of abuse and neglect. The Criminal Code (Amendment) Act 1998 (Act 554), criminalizes the abandonment or exposure of a child to danger (section 5), abduction of a child (section 7), and a range of sexual offences including rape, forced marriage, indecent assault, incest, defilement, procurement, causing or encouraging the seduction or prostitution of a child under 16, custody of child under 16, and allowing persons under 16 to be in brothels (sections 11 to 13).

133. Further, the Children's Act protects a wide range of rights of children as well as imposing a number of parental duties (sections 1 to 15). Included in this Act is the protection of children from degrading and inhuman treatment, in section 13(1) which reads: "No person shall subject a child to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment including any cultural practice which dehumanises or is injurious to the physical and mental well-being of a child." If it is proven in a court that this provision has been contravened, under section 15 of the



same Act, the person responsible for the action may be fined and jailed for up to a year. Under the Children's Act, this applies to all persons, whether family members or not. In the case where a child is institutionalised, section 110 (1) of the Children's Act states that all staff responsible for the care of the child are bound by the same parental responsibilities as the child's natural parents.

134. In the case where a child or some other authority believes that a child has been abused or neglected, that child or authority may either take their claims to the CHRAJ or the courts, including Family Tribunals. CHRAJ may issue orders for compensation or action or non-action, while a Family Tribunal or Court may issue criminal sentences or other orders. Sections 16 to 26 of the Children's Act outlines the procedure developed for the intervention by authorities, in cases where the child requires protection from violence, abuse, or neglect.

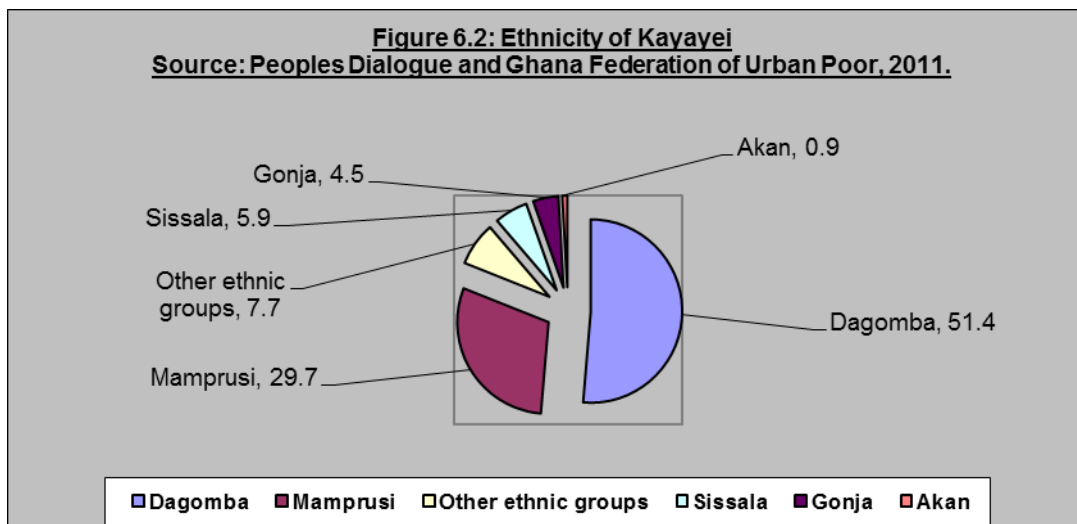
6.6.1 Homeless Children

135. The DSW is the official institution mandated to handle issues of homelessness and destitute children. The DSW ensures that all children found to be homeless are provided homes or family in situations of neglect and deprivation. Based on the decisions of the DSW, a child may be given up for adoption, care placement or fosterage for protection and maintenance.
136. The phenomenon of 'streetism' can also be referred to as situations of children being homeless. According to a nationwide survey (GSS, 2003), there are two types of children on the street: those who are on the street trading during the day but go home to sleep at night, and those who work on the street and at night sleep in front of shops, markets and other such open places. The latter fall within the category of homeless children since they live on the streets and have made it their permanent sleeping places.
137. The street children phenomenon is still a problematic issue in Ghana. Some of the major causes of the phenomenon are rural-urban drift, the poverty of parents, the survival of the children and the harsh economic conditions prevailing in the deprived areas they come from. The exact number of street children in Ghana is still not known but there is evidence of its existence and ascendancy.
138. Other groups of homeless children are girls who engage in head potrage of goods in market places. These young girls are referred to as Kayayei. The word



kayayoo was derived from two languages. *Kaya* comes from the Hausa language, meaning luggage, load or goods, and *Yoo also* is a Ga word meaning a woman. The word *kayayoo*, is a combination of the two words, meaning a young woman or a teenage girl who carries other people's loads on the head for a fee. The plural form of *yoo* is *yei*, hence *kayayei* are women head porters.

139. A recent estimate in 2011 by an NGO called Peoples Dialogue and Ghana Federation of Urban Poor (PDGFUP) put the number of Kayaayei around 15,000. The PDGFUP projections show that Kayaayei are migrant females from northern parts of our country. Of the total kayayei sampled. 51.4 percent were Dagombas, 29.7 percent were Mamprusi, 4.5 percent were Gonja, 5.9 percent Sissala, 0.9 percent Akan and 7.7 percent constituted other ethnic groups (Fig 6.2).



140. The Kayayei phenomenon is caused by a mixture of reasons including poor parenting, inability of parents to support children financially, flee from ethnic violence, avoidance of forced marriages, quest for greener pastures and other socio-economic reasons. Kayayei face numerous challenges such as follows. They are:

- a) Exploited economically
- b) Sexually abused
- c) Physically abused
- d) Prone to health hazards as a result of heavy loads they carry
- e) Exposed to inadequate shelter, feeding, and medical arrangements

141. Some of the initiatives undertaken to reduce homelessness include equipping street children with livelihoods skills, re-integrating them into families, placing them into formal and non-formal education as well as granting them business training and



micro-grant support to their parents/guardians. With regards to kayayei MoGCSP has had series of deliberations with relevant groups such as Parliamentary Select Committee on Gender and Children, the media, representatives of kayayei, and other civil society groups to look for a reasonable way to address the concerns of the young people. The Ministry has planned series of actions based on the recommendations and suggestions from these deliberations. As a start an in-depth study and a systematic assessment of the kayayei phenomenon is to be undertaken by the Department of Children. The study will allow MoGCSP gather relevant data and enable suitable remediation and assistance to be given to the kayayei. In addition to the data collection, the MoGCSP is also considering the following:

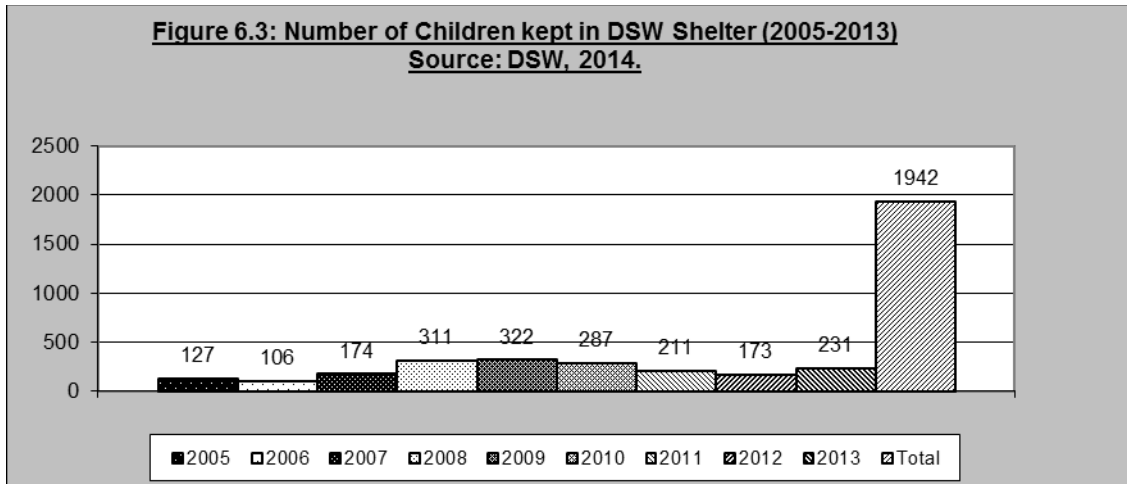
- a) A National Consultation Forum on the phenomenon
- b) Establishment of an Inter-Ministerial Committee or a National Steering Board/Committee on Kayaye/Street Children
- c) Agencies' assistance to street children such as school uniforms and payment of school fees for street children who wish to go to school
- d) Early passage of the Child and family Welfare Policy to serve as a roadmap in dealing with issues that affect the family
- e) Early passage of the National Migration Policy (MOI) to address migration dimensions of the phenomenon
- f) A nationwide public education on the negative effects of the phenomenon with active involvement of the media
- g) Mobilization of both external and local resources for programme interventions
- h) Maintaining on-going partnerships and alliances with development partners in order to mobilize funds for programmes and projects

142. In spite of the challenges, the government of Ghana has however, had significant support from the CSOs such as NGOs, CBOs, Faith Based Organisations (FBOs), and Traditional Authorities to address the problem of homelessness through the identification, rehabilitation and reintegration of children.



6.6.2 Abused or Neglected Children taken into Protective Custody

143. As regards abused or neglected children kept in the DSW shelter, between 2005 and 2013, one thousand nine hundred and forty-two (1,942) cases were recorded as seen in Figure 6.3.



6.6.3 Children Placed in Foster Care

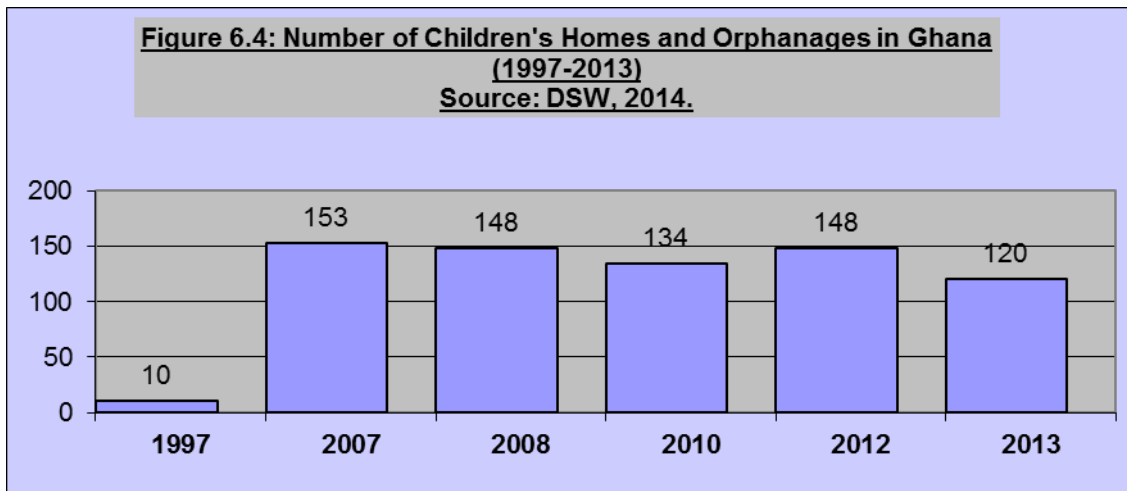
144. Placing children in foster care is a primary responsibility of the DSW. Fostering is one of the ways for ensuring that children are placed in a safe environment. Within the period under review, 12 children were fostered according to the records of the DSW. The DSW is currently developing a foster care guideline for foster parents as well as for monitoring purposes.

6.6.4 Children Placed in Institutional Care

145. Measures have been adopted to ensure special protection and assistance to children who are temporarily or permanently deprived of their family environment or, who, in their own best interest, cannot be allowed to remain in certain unsafe environments. Alternative care usually provided for these children include adoption or, where necessary, placement in suitable institutions for the care of children. Both the 1992 Republican Constitution and the Children's Act provide guidelines for the placement of children in a family environment and alternative care. The DSW is the state agency responsible for providing homes or families to enable these children to live in a family environment.



146. Between 1997 and 2007, the number of children's homes and orphanages in the country sprang from 10 to 153, and then dropped to 120 in 2013 (Figure 6.4) when government instituted measures to close some down.



147. According to the DSW the proliferation of institutionalized homes such as orphanages is not a good development for the country. Each of the administrative regions in the country has a number of orphanages (Figure 6.5). It is gradually breaking down the social fabric by disintegrating the extended family system. Moreover the operations of these homes do not conform to the required national and international standards. Cases of misapplication of supplies to the homes, sexual and physical abuse have been reported, investigated and this has led to the closing down of some of the homes, transfer or dismissal of staff found culpable. By end of 2013, the number of orphanages closed down stood at sixty-one (61)².

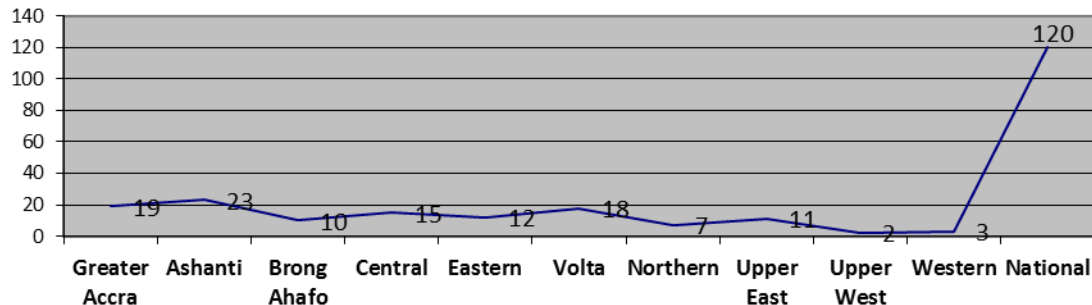
148. The DSW has also instituted suitable measures that have successfully resulted in the re-uniting of 1,300 children in orphanages with their families.

²Until May 2013 when the moratorium was issued, new orphanages were established as government made efforts to close some down. This explains the inconsistencies in the number of orphanages in place and the number closed down.



**Figure 6.5: Number of Children's Homes and Orphanages by Region
(2013)**

Source: DSW, 2014



149. The DSW has initiated the Child Care Reform Initiative to address these concerns and to ensure that institutions are used as a last resort and for limited periods only.

150. The CRI ensures that the necessary measures in the guideline on the care and protection of orphaned and vulnerable children remains a priority area and are adhered to by consistent monitoring and supervising children's Homes and Orphanages.

151. The main aim of the CRI is to 'de-institutionalize' by making institutional care the last resort. It seeks to promote family reunification and reintegration of children to the families and communities. The CRI regularly monitors and ensures that newly established Children's Homes and orphanages meets standard and reviews are made. Homes and orphanages which do not conform to standards are tracked and their licenses withdrawn. The DSW works in collaboration with UNICEF to provide technical and financial support in its training and monitoring activities. At the time of report compilation, 75 homes had been effectively monitored and profiled by the DSW.

6.6.5 Children Placed through Domestic Adoption

152. The DSW places children in adoption with interested persons and processes reports to the courts for the legalisation of the adoption, to ensure that the children are not deprived of the family environment, even after the death of the original adoptive parent. During this period, if DSW finds out that the subsequent adoptive



parent(s) and the placed child are incompatible, the child will be returned to the DSW.

153. The applicable law and procedures on the basis of which adoption is determined are sections 65 to 86 the Children's Act and the Adoption Rules. The Act outlines the following: jurisdiction and procedure for adoption; application for adoption; restrictions on making adoption orders; consent of parents and guardians; other consent; conditions for adoption order; interim order; knowledge of adoption by child; application by non-citizen; children previously adopted; effect of adoption on parental rights.
154. Section 70 (1) (b) of the Children's Act states that before a court grants an adoption order, it will be satisfied that the adoption "is in the best interests of the child and that the wishes of the child have been considered if the child is capable of forming an opinion." The application to adopt a child may be made to the High Court, Circuit Court or to any Family Tribunal with jurisdiction where the applicant or the child resides at the date of application (section 65).

6.6.6 Inter-Country Adoption

155. In contrast to local adoption, the procedure for inter-country adoption has become more stringent under the Children's Act to reflect international standards, than it was under the previous law. Under the Children's Act an order of adoption may be not be granted to a non-citizen who is single. In addition to this, an adoption order cannot be granted to a foreigner unless the foreign applicant and the child are both resident in Ghana. Adoption orders for non-citizens are also affected by the restrictions and interim orders that can be imposed on citizens. The relevant portions may be found from sections 65 to 78.
156. The DSW does the following before a court grants an adoption order:
- a) Investigates the background of the couples who want to adopt, to see their financial and social status and their living conditions before placing children with them. Within the first-three months of placement, the DSW visits the prospective adoptive parent(s) placed with children to ascertain the compatibility of the child and the adoptive parent(s).
 - b) The principle of the best interest of the child is always ensured even in the case of relative adoption. The child is interviewed and the process is



explained to him or her in the language within the capacity of his or her understanding.

6.6.7 Periodic Review of Placement

157. When placement is done, applicants are interviewed taking the following into account:

- a) Applicant(s) home, living conditions, employment history and means of livelihood.
- b) Whether applicant(s) has/have any criminal record and any other information which should be in the best interest of the child.
- c) Whether applicant(s) has/have suffered from tuberculosis and whether there is any history of epilepsy or mental illness in the family of the applicant(s).
- d) Whether the applicant (s) is/are addicted to any narcotic drugs.

158. Placement duration is not less than three months and not more than six months. During this period if the applicants find the placed child to be incompatible he or she can return the child to the DSW. As much as practicable, the principle of the best interest of the child is adhered to. If the child is of age and can understand the issue, the situation is explained and consent is elicited before placement.

159. The DSW has Adoption Units in all the Regions and between 2005 and 2011, the Units dealt with 2,388 cases of adoption as indicated in Table 6.2.

Table 6.2: Domestic and Foreign Adoption handled by the DSW (2005-2011)

Year	Domestic Adoption	Foreign Adoption	Total
2005	19	22	41
2006	100	321	421
2007	79	397	476
2008	76	195	271
2009	114	281	395
2010	126	305	431
2011	116	237	353
Total	630	1,758	2,388

Source: DSW (2010), UNCEF (2012).



CHAPTER SEVEN HEALTH AND WELFARE

7.1 Right to Life

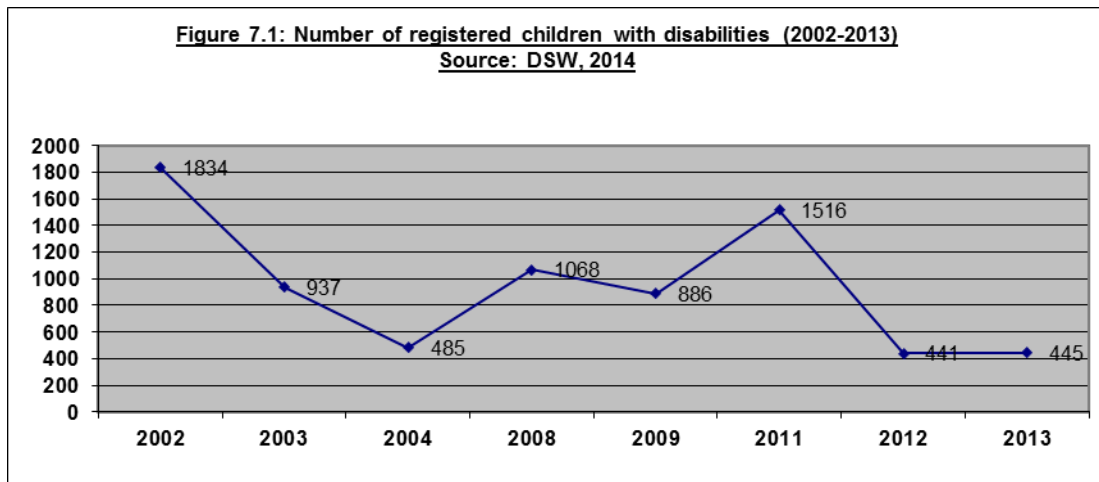
160. Survival is a fundamental human right that is guaranteed to all persons regardless of age and sex. In pursuing the right to life, a strategy has been devised for improving health services for the mother and the child, which includes empowerment, capacity building and service delivery. One of the major objectives of the strategy is to significantly reduce maternal, child and infant mortality by improving access to quality health services. Article 29 of the 1992 Constitution and article 6(2) of the Children's Act, guarantee all children the right to survival through the provision of adequate social services such as nutrition and health.
161. The Criminal Code of 1960 (Act 29) prohibits abortion unless it is endorsed by a registered medical practitioner; in instances where the pregnancy is the result of rape, defilement and where the continuance of the pregnancy would involve a risk to the life of the pregnant woman, injury to her physical or mental health or where there is substantial risk that the child to be born may suffer from, or later develop a serious physical abnormality or disease. The Code further provides that the abetment of suicide and attempted suicide is a criminal offence. There is no data to show the incidence of the phenomenon, however, there have been isolated cases of child suicides reported in the media.

7.2 Children with Disabilities (Article 13)

162. The laws of Ghana provide for the welfare of persons with disabilities in the 1992 Constitution and the Children's Act. The Persons with Disability Act, 2006 (Act 715) was passed just a year after Ghana ratified the African Children's Charter. The law makes provision for accessibility of persons with disabilities to public places, employment, and transportation, along with other rights such as family and social life, education for children with disability and their protection against exploitation and discrimination. The law also provides for the creation of Persons with Disability (PWD) Desks at employment centres nationwide and established the National Council on Persons with Disability (NCPD) in 2007 to oversee the implementation of some of the national programs for persons with disabilities.



163. According to the DSW, the most prevalent child disabilities in Ghana are mobility, sight, speech and hearing difficulties. The records of the DSW indicate a reduction in the number of registered children with disabilities from 1,834 in 2002 to 937 in 2003, and 485 in 2004 and 1,068 in 2008, came down to 886 in 2009, rose again to 1,516 in 2011 and dropped to 441 in 2012 and 445 in 2013 as presented in Figure 7.1.



164. In terms of education, the Special Education Division of the Ghana Education Service (SPED) has a mandate of providing equitable educational opportunities for children with special needs and disabilities. Currently, SPED runs 13 special schools and 24 units (integrated schools) for children with intellectual disabilities. Some private institutions such as the New Horizon basic school in Accra also exist to assist government to provide learning opportunities for children with special needs.

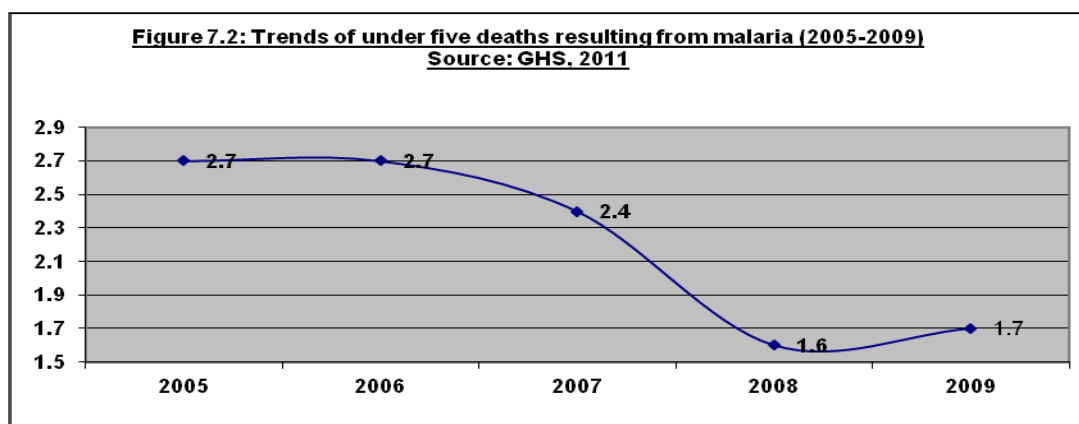
165. As part of efforts aimed at improving the welfare of children with disabilities and other vulnerable children, government has directed the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development to allocate five percent of the District Assembly Common Fund to support persons with disabilities and other vulnerable children in every district.

166. Even though legislation and the policy environment provide the framework for protection and guaranteeing the rights of the disabled to special treatment, there is still a lot more to be done to change the attitudes of parents and society towards recognizing the child with disabilities as an individual with equal rights.



7.3 Health and Health Services (Article 14)

167. Articles 28(4) and 30 of the 1992 Constitution provides the right to medical treatment to all Ghanaian children. Similar provisions are made in section 8 of the Children's Act, emphasizing that no person shall deprive a child of access to health, medical attention or any other thing required for his or her healthy development.
168. The Ministry of Health (MOH) is the main government body that sees to the health needs of every Ghanaian. It exists to ensure equitable provision and access to healthcare delivery and implementation of public health programmes in Ghana. The main implementing body that ensures the delivery of healthcare and health services under the MOH is the Ghana Health Service (GHS).
169. Within the reporting period, the GHS worked actively to improve the health of children. Specifically, mortality rates in under five year-olds, infants and new-borns all reduced between 2003 and 2008 (DHS, 2008). The reduction in mortality rates was due to renewed efforts to increase access to essential preventive and curative services. Strategies such as the yearly commemoration of child health promotion week, maternal and child health campaigns as well as the high impact rapid delivery approach have contributed to this reduction.
170. Under-five malaria case fatality also declined steadily between 2006 and 2009 as seen in Figure 7.2.

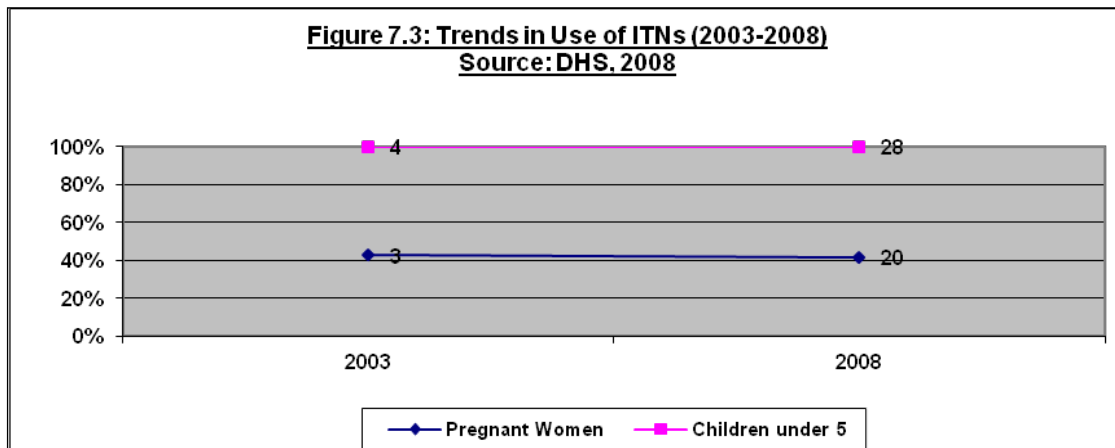


171. The 2008 DHS results also shows significant increases in the proportion of children under five years and pregnant women aged 15-49 who use ITNs. One-third of households in Ghana now have at least one insecticide-treated mosquito net (ITN) compared with only three percent of households in 2003. Overall, 28 percent of



children under five, and 20 percent of pregnant women aged 15 to 49 sleep under an ITN, an improvement of what was reported in the 2003 DHS report (Figure 7.3).

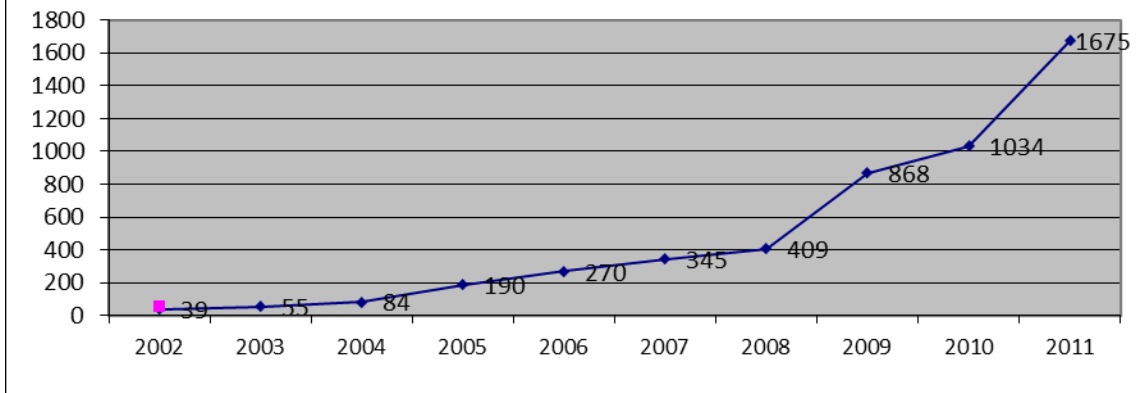
172. The distribution of insecticide-treated bed nets to children at no cost has greatly improved bed-nets ownership over the years. Indoor residual spraying has also been introduced and to complement efforts aimed at reducing malaria.



173. Ghana has recently benefited from the affordable medicines for malaria facility, greatly reducing the cost of malaria treatment. The introduction of malaria free zones and the adoption of a model for community-based service delivery known as the Community-based Health Planning and Services (CHPS) in communities has also contributed to some decline in malaria cases in the country. There has been a significant increase in the number of functional CHPS nationwide following the relatively slow start in CHPS implementation over the previous years. Implementation of functional CHPS, for instance, doubled from 868 in 2009 to 1,675 in 2011 (Figure 7.4). This increase has also been met with a correlated increase in the number of community health officers, most of whom have already had training in CHPS service delivery as part of their pre-service training.



Figure 7.4: Number of Functional CHPS Zones (2002-2011)
Source: GHS, 2011.



174. In spite of the marked improvements in the fight against malaria, it still remains a public health concern that needs to be tackled seriously to further reduce child morbidity and mortality.

175. During the reporting period, the GHS intensified its awareness raising and programme interventions on breastfeeding. Results of the 2008 DHS indicate an impressive improvement in exclusive breastfeeding.

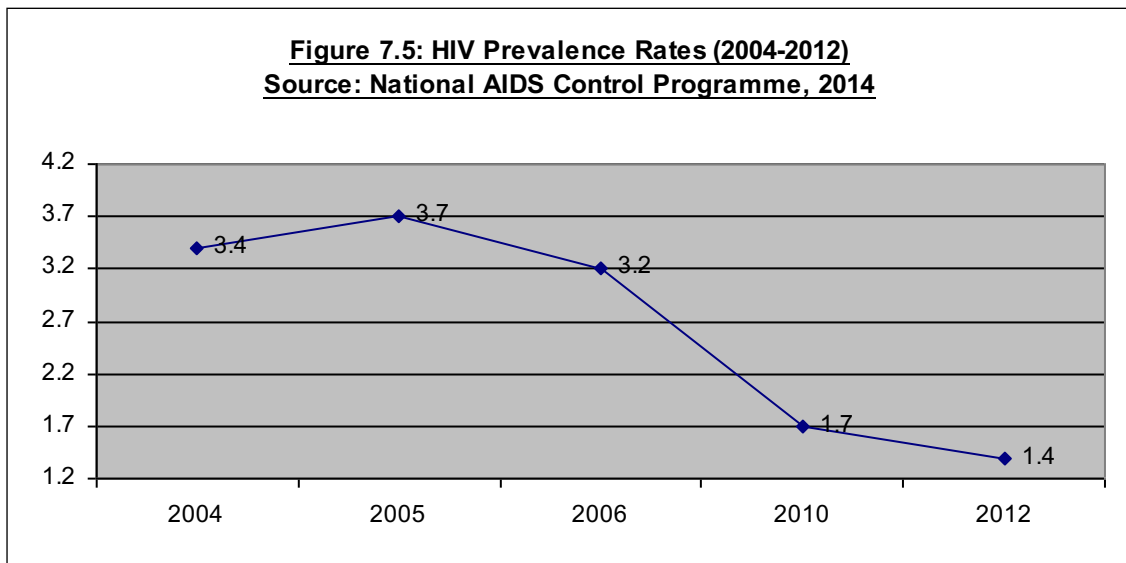
176. The state party also strengthened its health-care services for adolescents focusing on reproductive and mental health programmes (as well as adolescent-sensitive mental health counselling services) and made them known and accessible to adolescents. According to the GHS, there has been remarkable improvement in adolescent health care services in Ghana, with focus on adolescent reproductive and mental health issues. The current adolescent reproductive health programme has the under-mentioned as its strategic objectives:

- a) Improve access to appropriate health information by adolescents and young people,
- b) Improve access to and utilisation of quality health services by adolescents and young people,
- c) Enhance the social, legal and cultural environment for the health of adolescents and young people,
- d) Improve community participation (adolescents, parents, community leaders, traditional and religious leaders etc..) in adolescents and young people's health programme implementation to increase the demand and utilization of services, and



- e) Improve the management of adolescents and young people's health programmes including resource mobilization.

177. As regards HIV/AIDS prevalence in Ghana, the State Party has done remarkably well to reduce the prevalence rate, from a high prevalence of 3.4 per cent in 2004 to 1.4 per cent in 2012 (Figure 7.5). The National AIDS Control Programme has projected a further decline to 1.3 percent by 2015.



178. According to the 2008 DHS, almost all women and men in Ghana have heard of AIDS. However, knowledge of HIV prevention methods is somewhat lower. Sixty-nine percent of women aged 15–49 and 77 percent of men aged 15 to 49 know that HIV can be prevented by using condoms and by limiting sex to one faithful partner. Only 25 percent of women and 33 percent of men aged 15 to 49 have comprehensive knowledge about HIV. In Ghana, knowledge of prevention increases with increasing education and wealth (DHS 2008).

179. A National HIV/AIDS and STI Policy, a Strategic Framework as well as a five year Strategic Plan of Work were developed in 2006 to guide national response to HIV/AIDS. The first National HIV & AIDS, STI policy has been revised based on the new scientific knowledge and new developments in the national and global response to HIV. The current revision was developed over a one year period and included national and regional consultations with a wide range of stakeholders to



make inputs into the revision of the policy. The revised National HIV and AIDS, STI policy was published in February, 2013.

180. Six centres where children exposed to HIV can be tested within six weeks of birth have been established and Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) machines have been procured and installed to serve the purpose.
181. PMTCT programmes have received a major boost with about thousand one hundred and seventy-four centres now (1,174) offering PMCT services provided to pregnant women. According to the GHS, there are 150 centres providing antiretroviral (ARV) therapy to all persons (including children) in need of ARVs. A total of 2,645 children have been provided with antiretroviral therapy within the reporting period.
182. PMTCT services have been integrated into sexual and reproductive health services³. This has ensured wider access to women in reproductive ages. It is also recorded that in 2012, 70 percent of all HIV-positive persons received Anti-Retroviral (ARV) medication to prevent MTCT, an increase from the 2011 coverage of 50 percent. The 2013 Global AIDS Report further notes that in Ghana, the risk of a woman living with HIV transmitting the disease to her child has reduced from 31 percent in 2009 to nine percent (7 percent – 11 percent) in 2012.⁴ In addition, the Report finds that in Ghana, the coverage of services for women living with HIV to prevent MTCT increased dramatically from 32 percent (27 percent – 38 percent) to more than 90percent in 2012. Worthy of note is also the fact that there is a 76 percent reduction in new infections among children⁵.
183. In order to improve efficiency in service delivery, some paediatricians and other child health care providers have been trained to provide expert services to children living with HIV and AIDS. Other health service providers had been trained in early infant diagnosis of HIV and AIDS.

³GAC, (2013) 'Achievements and Challenges with respect to MDG 6' p 3.

⁴UNAIDS (2013) p 37.

⁵Ghana AIDS Commission (2013) p 3.



Table 7.1: HIV Information on Children (2005-2012)

Indicator	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2012
HIV related deaths among Children	3,245	3,278	2,936	2,816	2,566	2,276	-
Children infected by HIV and AIDS	15,011	18,116	21,828	26,133	25,666	25,756	28,000
Children on antiretroviral Therapy	119	122	308	450	722	894	-

Source: GHS (2011), UNICEF (2012).

184. According to a UNICEF country statistics (2012) on HIV/AIDS, about 28,000 children in Ghana are living HIV and over 190,000 are orphaned by HIV. By 2012, the HIV prevalence among children aged 15-24 was 0.4 percent. The prevalence rate (though relatively low), was higher (0.5%) among female children aged 15-24 than (0.3%) male children aged 15-24.

Table 7.2: HIV/AIDS Data on Children aged 15-24 (2012)

Indicator	Frequency/Percentage
Children living with HIV (aged 15-24)	28 (thousands)
HIV prevalence among young people (aged 15-24) total	0.4 percent
HIV prevalence among young people (aged 15-24) male	0.3 percent
HIV prevalence among young people (aged 15-24) female	0.5 percent
Comprehensive knowledge of HIV (aged 15-24) male	38.6
Comprehensive knowledge of HIV (aged 15-24) female	36.8
Condom use among young people with multiple partners (aged 15-24) male	39.3
Condom use among young people with multiple partners (aged 15-24) female	27.2
Children orphaned by AIDS	190 (thousands)

Source: UNICEF at a Glance: Ghana, 2012.

7.4 Survival and Development

185. Survival and development continues to be an important focus area of government, and the GHS has strengthened its initiatives to improve the health of children. The child health programme has activities aimed at promoting and maintaining the optimal growth and development of children. Children above five years are covered under the school health and adolescent health programmes. The package of services targeted at children below five years include – growth promotion (monitoring of weight for age and counselling on appropriate feeding

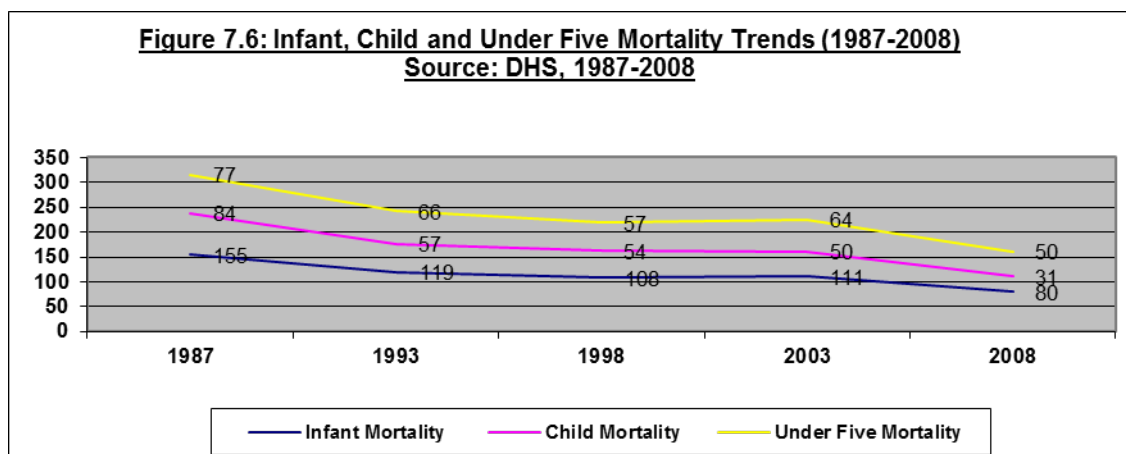


practices), immunisation against childhood diseases, and Vitamin A supplementation among others.

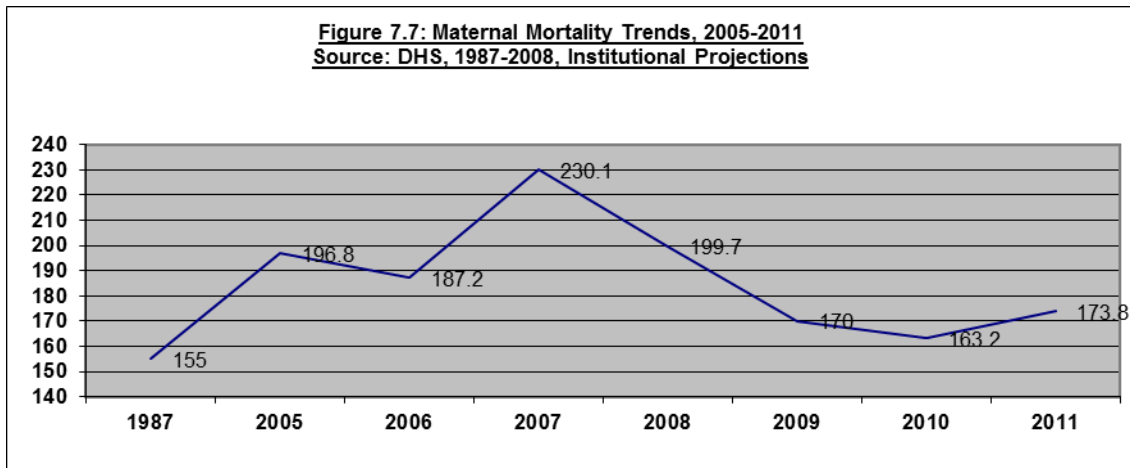
186. According to GHS, awareness creation programmes on Vitamin A supplementation, salt iodisation and usage, integrated approach to anaemia control among mothers and children and malaria control have all been intensified, whilst other efforts on accelerated delivery of proven cost effective interventions to reduce child mortality have also been strengthened.

7.4.1 Child and Maternal Mortality

187. Most of the proxy indicators on all the services targeted at child survival have improved over the last five years. As regards infant, child under five and maternal mortality, it should be noted that the State Party made some progress in reducing the rates as seen in Figure 7.6 and 7.7.



188. In spite of the gains made in under five mortality, it is difficult to predict at this stage if Ghana will be able to achieve MDG 4 of a two-thirds reduction in under-five mortality by 2015.



189. According to the GHS the main causes of maternal mortality within the reporting period were haemorrhage, infections, abortions\hypertensive disorders, and obstructed labour.

7.4.2 Childhood Immunizations

190. Other significant gains in child health indicators are increases in the proportion of children aged 12-23 months who received all their immunisations on the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI), which rose from 47 percent in 1988 to 69 percent in 2003 and 79 percent in 2008 (DHS, 2008). It should be noted that there are still important regional and rural/urban disparities according to the DHS results.

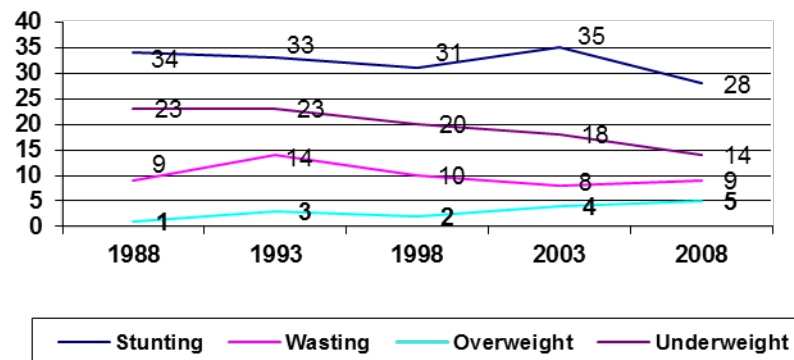
7.4.3 Nutritional status of children under five

191. The recent⁶ DHS (2008) results indicate that in terms of nutrition, the rates of underweight children continue to be high, with 14 percent of all Ghanaian children being underweight or too thin for their age (Figure 7.8). Five percent are obese or overweight, whilst 28 percent of children under five are stunted or too short for their age. Stunting is more common in rural areas (32%) than urban areas (21%) in Ghana, ranging from 14 percent in the Greater Accra region to 38 percent in the Eastern region. Wasting (too thin for height), which is a sign of acute malnutrition, is less common (9%) in Ghana.

⁶GSS, Demographic Health Survey (DHS), 2008.



Figure 7.8: Trends of Nutritional Status of Children Under Five (1988-2008)
Source: DHS 1998-2008



192. The School Feeding Programme, which has been reviewed and improved by government, has been one of the major steps taken by government to improve the nutritional status of children. According to the GES, approximately 1.7 million are being fed on a daily basis. Government has plans to extend it to two million countrywide and approximately 300,000 more to be sent to the neediest areas.

193. Other measures taken include promotion of improved early childhood nutrition through the promotion of improved feeding practices (exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding) for young children 0 to 23 months old through:

- a) Behaviour change communication programs
- b) Community-based growth promotion programs; and
- c) Improved management of acute under-nutrition

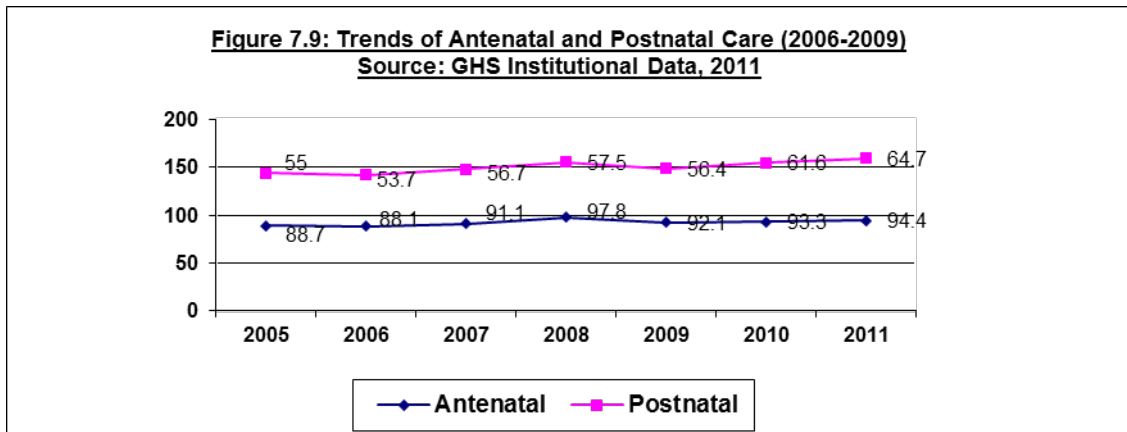
194. In addition, there are specific programmes to control micronutrient deficiencies through:

- a) The promotion of universal consumption of iodized salt for the control of iodine deficiency
- b) The implementation of large-scale vitamin A supplementation programs for children 6-59 months old and mothers in the early postpartum period; and
- c) The promotion of improvement in iron+folate supplementation for the control of iron deficiency and anaemia during pregnancy and the postpartum period



7.4.4 Post-natal and Ante-natal care

195. The safe motherhood indicators showed fairly sustained coverages over the period being reviewed. Both ante-natal and post-natal services improved, as reflected in the coverage for 2005-2011 (Figure 7.9).



7.5 Social Security

196. The extended family for many years has been the traditional system in Ghanaian communities providing social and economic security to various family members in times of need. This system has an in-built safety net, which provides for the care of children within the family. The system rests on a customary assumption that each person within the family is another's keeper; everyone is helped by another person and it goes round in circles to help other family members in the future. The system encourages well-to-do members to take care of those less-endowed within the family. Among certain tribes in Ghana, it is the responsibility of uncles to take care of their nephews and nieces, in the absence of their biological parents or in situations of financial difficulties of parents.

197. The emergence of modern systems through the promotion of economic growth, and other pressures from urbanization have contributed to a gradual decline of the extended family system. There is a gradual shift away from primary reliance on the extended family towards dependence on more semi-formally institutionalized social security systems. Most of the security systems in place are not for children specifically, however, since their parents benefit, it has indirect effects on the children (including those born out of wedlock). The Social Security and National



Insurance Trust (SSNIT) is an example of such a system which is controlled by government.

198. At present children benefit from subsidies from the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS), which takes the form of waivers on premiums if their parents are registered.
199. Other social security systems are offered by bodies such as faith-based organisations (FBOs). These have also been very supportive building various support networks around the country. They are fast becoming a social security system in the country, and many children benefit from the services they render. FBOs provide support to people in need of support, especially children from poverty stricken homes. Many children are provided support such as education, healthcare, and other areas of development.

7.6 Childcare Services and Facilities

200. Parents in Ghana have access to child care services aimed at child minding whilst parents are engaged in other and economic and social obligations. These services are provided by both the public and private operators but are supervised by the DSW.
201. Sections 115 to 120 of the Children's Act outline the procedures for application to run a child-care facility. The DSW has the mandate to enforce the guidelines for the operation of the centres and to monitor their operations.

7.6.1 Care for Orphans (Article 26)

7.6.2 The Care Reform Initiative (CRI)

202. The CRI is run by the DSW to de-emphasize over reliance on care systems for vulnerable children based on institutions and move towards a range of integrated family and community based care services for those children without appropriate parental care.
203. The goal of the CRI is to establish a more consistent and stable approach to caring for vulnerable children in Ghana so that each child will be assured of a permanent home in a supportive and loving family. The CRI approach is based on the under mentioned components:

- a) **Prevention:** To prevent the disintegration of families through linkages with strategies that strengthen families such as the social grant programme



(LEAP), scholarships, food packages, access to National Health Insurance and other support programmes.

- b) **Reintegration with the extended family (Kinship Care):** In cases where children are separated from their parents, to find loving relatives who are able to create a caring and stable environment for the child.
- c) **Fostering:** Where kinship care cannot be provided, temporary or permanent care with foster families can still provide a good home for children.
- d) **Adoption:** Where the possibility of a family reunion is exhausted, steps are taken to find the child a loving adoptive home, preferably with a Ghanaian family.

7.7 The Nature and Extent of Co-operation with Local, National, Regional and International Organisations, concerning the implementation of the African Children's Charter

204. The nature and extent of the cooperation with local, national, regional and International Organisations, concerning the implementation of the African Children's Charter has been very cordial. Co-operation between the government of Ghana and the international community including non-governmental organisations to implement the African Children's Charter has been very positive.

205. The UN system, especially UNICEF, UNDP, ILO and UNESCO have been supportive in providing funds and technical support to various government and non-governmental organisations in the areas child rights such as education, water and sanitation, health, institutional development, capacity building and other human and technical support for programme/project implementation. Other development partners such as the World Bank, DFID, Plan Ghana, World Vision International, and Action Aid among others have also assisted to promote quality education through research, awareness, advocacy, monitoring, capacity building, and support for service delivery.



CHAPTER EIGHT

EDUCATION, LEISURE AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

8.1 Education, Training and Guidance

8.1.1 Free Basic Education

206. The 1992 Republican Constitution makes provision for free, compulsory, and available basic education, while secondary education in its various forms including technical and vocational is to be made generally available, accessible and progressively free. Section 8 of the Children's Act also makes provision for children's access to education, and includes regulations on Formal Education and Apprenticeship in the informal sector.

207. In 2007, the government initiated a National Education Reform Programme aimed at overhauling the education sector to meet current developmental needs of the country. This programme led to the passage of 2008 Education Act, (Act 778). The structure of Ghana's educational system in the Act is as follows:

- a) Basic education - Basic education now includes two years of kindergarten, six years of primary school and three years of junior high school. Basic education continues to be free and compulsory for all children in the country.
- b) Second cycle education - three years of senior high school or technical, vocational, business and agricultural education, or appropriate apprenticeship scheme
- c) Tertiary education – this includes four and two year degree and diploma programmes respectively in various disciplines. It also includes three year programmes in High National Diploma and Diploma in Basic Education from Polytechnics and Colleges of Education respectively Non-Formal Education and National Center for Distance Learning and Open Schooling (CENDLOS)- Provision for non-formal and life-long education
- d) Distance education - Each level of education to include distance learning programmes/opportunities

208. Act 778 makes provision for District Assemblies to support children of parents who cannot afford the cost of basic education with a poverty allowance. In the pursuance of decentralisation, the responsibility for the management of basic and second cycle education has been entrusted to District Assemblies.



209. To improve physical access to education by all children, the Act also provides that school facilities be designed to meet the needs of children with disabilities and with special educational needs.

210. The Act provides for the establishment of National Teaching Council (NTC) with responsibility of setting the standards for teacher professional development, registration and licensing of teachers and regulating the professional conduct of teachers National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) has overall responsibility for the national curriculum and student assessment at the first and 2nd cycles schools; and a National Inspectorate Board (NIB) an independent agency of the Ministry of Education, to set, enforce and monitor a wide range of academic, infrastructure and education standards for public and private schools with routine inspection of schools.

8.2 Policies and Programmes

211. Since 2003, a number of sub-sector specific policies have been developed. These collectively define many aspects of education delivery. A number of them have been enumerated in this section.

8.2.1 Science, Technology in Innovations (STI)

212. The purpose of the STI policies is to strengthen the teaching and learning of science, technology and innovations at all levels of the system so as to produce a critical mass of human resource that will stimulate Ghana's technological capacity.

8.2.2 ICT in Education Policy, 2006

213. The draft ICT in Education Policy is to ensure that there are adequate opportunities for pupils and students in the formal and non-formal sectors to develop skills that will enable them to benefit fully from ICTs. It focuses on an interlinked tri-partite approach: ICT as a management tool within institutions at all levels, ICT skills development for all and ICT as a pedagogical tool, particularly in Senior High Schools.



8.2.3 Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Policy

214. The thrust of the TVET policy is to integrate the various types of formal and non-formal TVET, from the elementary to the tertiary levels, into a single comprehensive demand-driven system, under a single umbrella management council for TVET.

8.2.4 Inclusive Education (IE) and Special Educational Needs (SPED)

215. The delivery of education to children and young people with disabilities and special educational needs is informed by three guiding principles:

- a) The right to education
- b) The right to equality of educational opportunities
- c) The right and obligation to be included in and participate fully in the affairs of society

8.2.5 Tertiary Education Policy

216. The Tertiary Policy is to promote quality, relevance and excellence in tertiary education, to facilitate the development of world-class human resources and to support national development.

8.2.6 Pre-Tertiary Teacher Professional Development and Management

217. The pre-tertiary teacher development and management policy is to provide standards regarding the professional development, registration and licensing of teachers. The draft (PTTDM) policy recognizes the importance of continuous professional development via school-based and distance learning modules and includes strategies to achieve these goals.

8.2.7 Capitation Grant, 2005

218. The Ministry of Education, Science and Sports (MOESS), now Ministry of Education (MOE) in 2005 introduced the Capitation Grant scheme as an intervention for realising the Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education Policy (FCUBE). The introduction of the Grant abolished the payment of school fees for pupils in public basic schools. At the commencement of the Scheme, every child in Basic School received an amount of three Cedis (GH¢3.00, about \$2.00). This figure



was reviewed upwards to GH¢4.50 Ghana cedis (\$3.14) in 2009 to account for inflationary effects. This amount was to empower the schools to effectively use financial resources to plan and carry out school quality improvement activities. The grant has facilitated in serving as an opportunity to help build school level capacity to effectively implement fiscal decentralization – which is a long term goal of the government of Ghana. In the 2013 Budget Statement to Parliament, Government pledged to continue to provide the Grant and exercise books to approximately 5.7million basic school pupils nationwide as well as subsidy for 410,109 registered BECE candidates.

8.2.8 Free School Uniform and Exercise Book Programme/Policy, 2009

219. The Free School Uniform and Exercise Book Programme/Policy was initiated in 2009 in fulfilment of the Government’s commitment to ensuring that no child is denied access to quality basic education. According to the 2012 State of the Nation Address by the President, 1,258,690 school uniforms and 39,536,199 exercise books were distributed in the 2010-2011 academic year. The introduction of the programme has helped increase enrolment and retention of children in many needy communities. The Ministry of Education is working with MoGCSP on the common targeting mechanism to be employed for managing all forms of social intervention programmes and ensure that the interventions targets the most needy

8.2.9 Ghana School Feeding Programme, 2005

220. The Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP) was introduced in 2005 as a social intervention project to provide one hot, nutritious meal to school children during every school day. The long term goal of the project was to contribute to poverty reduction and food security in the country. The three key objectives are to reduce hunger and malnutrition among school children; increase school enrolment, attendance and retention; and boost domestic food production.

221. Strategically, the programme focused on spending about 80 percent of the feeding cost in the local economy by procuring local foodstuffs directly from the farmers in the community. This was expected to increase incomes and lead to wealth creation in rural households and communities. The programme carried out prudent financial and project management strategies to sustain financial support from key



stakeholders and address the irregularities in the distribution of beneficiary schools and pupils through the adoption of the quota system.

222. Audit reports on the School Feeding Programme have revealed several challenges. These include:

- a) Schools and caterers included in the programme without following laid down procedures;
- b) Inadequate programme monitoring due to limited resources;
- c) Programme implementation not guided by an operational manual;
- d) Signatories to bank accounts that did not conform to the District Assembly Financial Management System;
- e) No clear procedure to obtain enrolment figures used for disbursement of funds; and
- f) Inadequate supervision of activities of the GSFP Secretariat.

223. To bring efficiency and effectiveness, the government of Ghana is progressively reviewing the school feeding programme to meet its objectives. In addition, it is being re-organised as part of the on-going preparations towards introduction of the next phase of the programme.

8.2.10 Free Mass Transit Ride for School Children

224. Between 2006 and 2008, a total of 10,697,876 children benefitted from free mass transportation as indicated in Table 8.1. The number of school children carried by the Metro Mass Transits System (MMTS), fell drastically from 4.3 million in 2007 to less than 500,000 in 2009 in some major towns in the country. The decline is attributed to the breakdown of 120 buses out of a total of 230 buses in 2008. By 2009 the number of buses in operation had declined further.



Table 8.1: Trend Performance of Free Mass Transportation for School Children in some major towns in Ghana

Towns	2007	2008	2009
Kumasi	703,331	76,462	29,211
Takoradi	954,749	584,889	237,796
Sunyani	209,085	138,364	102,320
Kaneshie	899,260	241,825	34,305
Tamale	16,025	5,212	2,749
Bolgatanga	15,299	340	20
Swedru	45,963	19,919	4,886
Laterbiokoshie	114,429	14,559	0
Tema	397,606	145,583	9,428
Wa	53,194	13,675	8,306
Koforidua	220,740	93,094	28,433
Ho	67,280	10,675	3,557
Adenta corridor	521,871	89,779	15,509
Cape Coast	90,455	18,929	285
Akim Oda	17,634	172	15,103
Total	4,326,921	1,453,498	491,906

Source: NDPC, 2010.

225. The government is procuring 200 buses and the Metro Mass Transit (MMT) Ghana Limited is also procuring additional 30 buses from its internally generated funds to enhance public transport. The company is also engaged in an on-going programme to repair about 120 broken down buses to increase the fleet of buses to 700. It is hoped that children will benefit from the service of the buses.

8.2.11 The Education Strategic Plan (ESP) 2010 – 2020

226. The Education Strategic Plan (ESP 2010–2020) spells out the strategies of the government for the education sector over the next decade. The plan draws on its four predecessors and upon earlier visionary strategies such as the FCUBE. It is aimed at ensuring positive and permanent contribution to national development plans and to achieving the international development goals in education. The strategic objectives of the Plan are as follows:

- a) Improve equitable access to and participation in quality education at all levels



- b) Bridge gender gap in access to education
- c) Improve access to quality education for people with disability.
- d) Mainstream issues of population, family life, gender, health, HIV/AIDS/STI, conflicts, fire and road safety, civic responsibility, human rights and environment in the curricular at all levels.
- e) Improve quality of teaching and learning
- f) Promote science and technical education at all levels.
- g) Strengthen links between tertiary education and industry.
- h) Improve management of education service delivery.

8.2.12 Major Achievements in Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) in Ghana

The formative early years of a child's life demand a nurturing environment and attentive care. Early childhood, which spans the period up to 8 years, is critical for cognitive, social, emotional and physical development. Within the period of review a lot of efforts have been taken by government to improve public attention and involvement in early childhood practices. The establishment of an Early Childhood Secretariat in 2004 at the Department of Children within MoGCSP has led to the achievement of the following:

- a) Establishment of National, Regional as well as Metropolitan, Municipal and District ECCD Teams comprising partners from key sectors to support the implementation of the policy.
- b) Establishment of a National Early Childhood Care and Development Coordinating Committee
- c) Increased advocacy on ECCD at all levels. A number of Orientation and Capacity Building Programmes have been carried out for the teams and other stakeholders to create awareness on ECCD and improve competencies for programme planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
 - Orientation of Regional and District ECCD Teams on the ECCD Policy and the need to invest in ECCD.
 - Orientation of District Chief Executives on the ECCD Policy and the need to invest in ECCD.



- Capacity Building Workshops for Regional ECCD Teams on ECCD programming, advocacy, monitoring and evaluation, community mobilisation, parent education, collaboration and coordination.
 - Capacity building of Regional ECCD Teams on emerging child health and kindergarten education issues
 - Capacity building of Caregivers on ECCD and HIV/AIDS.
- d) Strengthened collaboration between partner agencies, which has resulted in a reduction of duplication and overlapping of roles. Consequently, joint planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation have been enhanced.
- e) The ECCD Secretariat has become a point of call for partners and international delegates to obtain updates on the situation of ECCD.
- f) Recognition of the ECCD Policy at National and International levels has offered Ghana the opportunity to participate in a number of conferences and host study tours to share her experiences on the implementation of ECCD.
- g) Development of standards for monitoring and measuring performance of children (0-3 years) in nurseries

8.2.13 Early Childhood Education

227. The government added two years of kindergarten to basic education as part of the reforms in education in 2007. Effective collaboration in the implementation of the Early Childhood Care and Development Policy (ECCD) has resulted in improvement in the enrolment rates at the preschool and kindergarten levels. Currently there is a National ECCD Steering Committee made up of MDAs, NGOs and individuals to ensure the effective implementation of the ECCD Policy. Regional ECCD Steering Committees have been established and trained to ensure effective delivery of ECCD related services at the regional level. District ECCD Teams have also been established to see to the implementation of the Policy at the District levels.

228. The number of preschools has seen a positive trend in the country. By the end of the 2012/2013 academic year, there were 5,352 crèches and Nursery Schools nationwide. Of this number, 511 are run by the government and 4,841 by private operators, thus, there are more private run preschools in the country. Table 8.4



indicates the number of children enrolled in preschools for the 2004/2005-2012/2013 academic years. Data from Table 8.2 indicates that in all the academic years the total number of boys outnumbered those of girls. Regional distribution of crèches from 2005 to 2013 is presented in the annex to this Report.

Table 8.2: Pre-School Enrolment Trends (2004/2005 - 2012/2013)

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
2004/2005	111,197	106,122	217,319
2005/2006	91,830	90,971	182,801
2006/2007	92,653	91,921	184,574
2007/2008	93,139	91,772	184,911
2008/2009	107,430	105,205	212,635
2009/2010	120,052	118,324	238,376
2010/2011	120,469	118,201	238,670
2011/2012	132,143	128,475	260,618
2012/2013	152,437	149,778	302,215

Source: EMIS, MOE 2014.

229. Through co-ordinated inter-sectoral collaboration between the Education and Health sectors and MoGCSP, activities of these institutions are monitored to ensure effective provision of ECCD services. Health officers visit these centres to record growth monitoring of children, while Education officers support with in-service training for care givers and teachers in these institutions. MOWAC through the Department of Children (DOC) has organised training for care givers on the ECCD Policy, HIV/AIDS and child rights. The DSW provides welfare services and DOC coordination.

230. Generally, attention towards early childhood learning has seen significant improvement. The results of the 2011 MICS compared to the previous MICS survey in 2006, shows improvements in the general attitude shown by parents and family members towards early childhood learning (Table 8.3).



Table 8.3: Early Childhood Indicators (2006 & 2011)

Indicator	2006	2011
Attendance in early childhood education	51.6	68.2
Attendance in early childhood education (male)	50.0	65
Attendance in early childhood education (female)	53.3	71.5
Attendance in early childhood education (poorest households)	22.9	41.5
Attendance in early childhood education (richest households)	87.0	96.5
Adult support for early childhood learning	39.3	39.8
Adult support for early childhood learning (male)	41.0	37.9
Adult support for early childhood learning (female)	37.6	41.8
Adult support for early childhood learning (poorest households)	23.9	23
Adult support for learning (richest households)	62.5	78.4
Father's support for early childhood learning	46.9	29.6
Early childhood Learning materials at home (Children's books)	12.7	6.2
Early childhood Learning materials at home in poorest households (Children's books)	4.5	0.6
Early childhood Learning materials at home in richest households (Children's books)	36.0	22.7
Early childhood Learning materials at home (Playthings)	28.1	41.1
Early childhood Learning materials at home in poorest households (Playthings)	20.4	30.9
Early childhood Learning materials at home in richest households (Playthings)	32.0	50.9
Children left in inadequate care	24.8	20.7
Children left in inadequate care in poorest households	36.4	26.5
Children left in inadequate care in richest households	12.1	14.8

Source: MICS 2006 & 2011, GSS.

8.2.14 Basic Education

231. Even though the education policy in Ghana states that basic education is free, parents and guardians are still made to contribute by paying levies such as Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) contributions, sports and culture, and guidance and counselling levies.

232. Within the reporting period, there have been substantial increases in enrolments across all levels of basic education (Table 8.4). For instance, enrolment in kindergarten increased from 731,331 in 2004/2005 to 1,604,505 in 2012/2013 while that of primary level rose from 2,929,536 in 2004/2005 to 4,105,913 in 2012/2013. At the Junior High School (JHS) level, enrolment jumped from 1,010,246 in 2004/2005 to 1,301,940 in 2009/2010 and then to 1,452,585 in 2012/2013.

**Table 8.4: Enrolment in Kindergarten, Primary and JHS (2004/2005-2012/2013)**

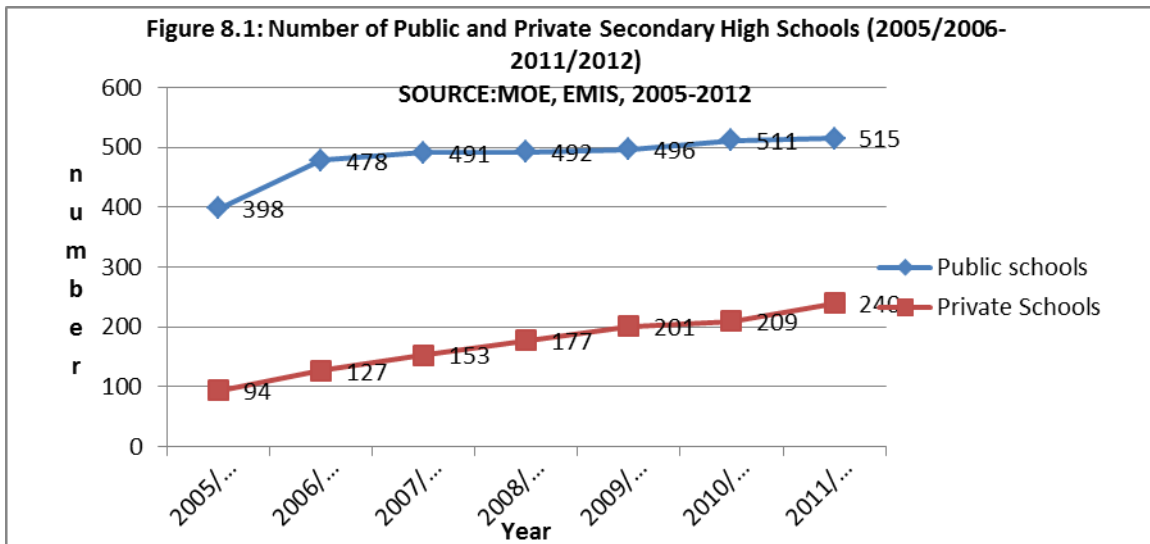
Year	Kindergarten			Primary			JHS		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
2004/2005	369,019	362,312	731,331	1,525,548	1,403,988	2,929,536	548,156	462,090	1,010,246
2005/2006	498,524	500,295	998,819	1,606,178	1,516,725	3,122,903	557,261	483,741	1,041,002
2006/2007	552,995	551,784	1,104,779	1,732,162	1,633,600	3,365,762	605,086	527,232	1,132,318
2007/2008	632,421	626,062	1,258,483	1,860,289	1,755,734	3,616,023	652,146	571,864	1,224,010
2008/2009	671,822	666,632	1,338,454	1,908,232	1,802,415	3,710,647	684,113	601,164	1,285,277
2009/2010	723,833	716,899	1,440,732	1,953,359	1,855,899	3,809,258	690,664	611,276	1,301,940
2010/2011	749,764	741,686	1,491,450	2,028,893	1,933,886	3,962,779	707,847	627,553	1,335,400
2011/2012	776,852	766,462	1,543,314	2,075,010	1,987,016	4,062,026	729,034	656,333	1,385,367
2012/2013	807,738	796,767	1,604,505	2,096,218	2,009,695	4,105,913	759,884	692,701	1,452,585

Source: MOE, EMIS, 2004-2013.

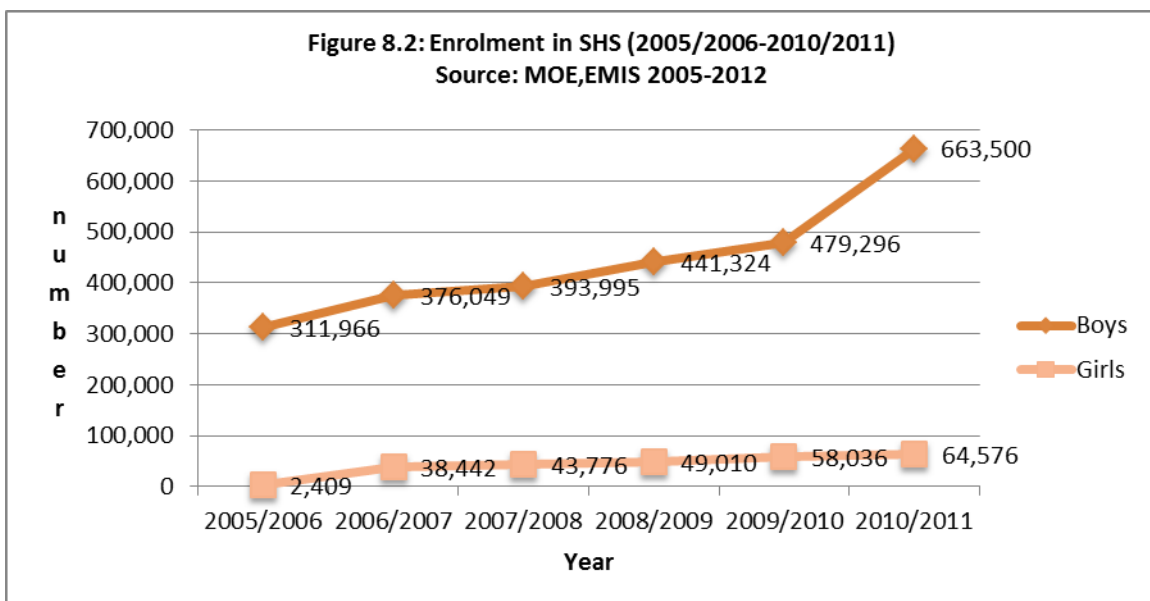
233. The increases in enrolment is largely attributed to abolition of school fees and introduction of pro-poor policies such as the Capitation Grant Scheme, School Feeding Programme, free uniform and exercise books programme and the active implementation of activities to promote girls education, which have together removed some of the barriers to enrolment and encouraged participation and attendance. These measures have particularly benefited the deprived districts and the poor.

8.2.15 Secondary High Education

234. Within the reporting period efforts have been put in place to improve access to secondary and vocational education in Ghana. For instance, the number of secondary schools increased from 492 in 2005/2006 to 757 in 2011/2012 as indicated in the Figure 8.1.



235. Enrolment of children also increased within the reporting period from 336,175 in 2005/2006 to 758,468 in 2011/2012 as indicated in Figure 8.2.



8.2.16 Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

236. Government has also introduced a variety of TVET to ensure that children have opportunity to develop their full potential. These institutions are located in various regions to ensure easy accessibility. Between 2005/2006 and 2010/2011, the number of TVET institutions assumed an increase of more than 100 percent in spite of the drop in 2011/2012 as indicated in Table 8.5.



Table 8.5: Number of TVET Institutions by Type (2005/2006-2011/2012)

Year	Public	Private	Total
2005/2006	42	86	128
2006/2007	129	129	258
2007/2008	130	143	273
2008/2009	133	163	296
2009/2010	129	151	280
2010/2011	137	169	306
2011/2012	141	160	301

Source: MOE, EMIS, 2006-2012.

237. Enrolment also improved from 27,604 in 2004/2005 to 79,986 in 2011/2012 within the reporting period. Even though TVET is seen as the preserve of men, the Women in Technical Education (WITED) Unit of the Technical Education Division (TED), provide support to women who want to pursue vocational and technical programmes. As part of the Gender Responsive Skills and Community Development Project (GRSCDP, MoGCSP (MOWAC) received support from the African Development Bank to offer skills training to girls/women in the areas typically tagged as male sectors. Tools for masonry, carpentry/joinery, catering, electrical, auto mechanics, hair dressing and dressmaking were provided to young people, as part of efforts of equipping young ladies with male-dominated skills. Vocational and Technical education institutions have also been strengthened by providing them with the necessary equipment needed for effective learning.

8.2.17 The Secondary Education Improvement Project for Ghana, 2014

238. The development objective of the Secondary Education Improvement Project for Ghana is to increase access to senior secondary education in underserved districts and improve quality in low-performing senior high schools in Ghana. The project comprises of two components. The first component, support to increase access with equity and quality in senior high schools (SHS) uses a results-based financing (RBF) modality. Disbursements up to a capped absolute amount will be made against



specific line items in the education sector annual budget, referred to as eligible expenditure programs (EEPs).

239. Policies and interventions to be supported are grouped into two pillars: (i) increasing access with equity (geographic, gender, poverty, etc.); and (ii) improving quality of selected low performing SHS. The second component, management, research, and monitoring and evaluation aims to strengthen the implementation capacity of the ministry of education (MOE) and Ghana education service (GES) and its related implementing agencies and assist them to achieve the objectives of the government's SHS strategy. This component will support monitoring and evaluation (M and E), coordination, planning, communication, financial management, procurement, and safeguard.
240. There is a scholarship component of the project, which was approved by Parliament on 3rd July, 2014. Under the Project, 10,400 SHS students especially girls, over a three year period, will receive scholarships. Selection of the needy students will be done by an Independent Scholarship Administrator who will apply an agreed upon criteria. Adolescent girls in Senior High School and students from low income families in Ghana will benefit from the scholarship package. This is to ensure they are supported by the Government of Ghana to remain in school and complete their secondary education successfully. The category of students who will benefit from the scholarship package are self-financing students, disabled students, orphan students, students living with HIV/AIDs, students from LEAP households among others.

8.3 Schools with Water and Sanitary Facilities

241. The number of schools with the provision of water and sanitary facilities has also improved significantly over the reporting period. In terms of water, the number increased from 18,573 in 2005/2006 to 33,255 in 2012/2013. Similar increase was recorded for the schools with toilet facilities from 18,218 in 2005/2006 to 39,730 in 2012/2013 as indicated in Table 8.6.



Table 8.6: Number of Schools with Water and Toilets (2005/2006-2012/2013)

Period	Preschool			Kindergarten			Primary			JHS		
	No of schools	Schools with toilet	Schools with drinking water	No. of schools	Schools with toilet	Schools with drinking water	No. of schools	Schools with toilet	Schools with drinking water	No of schools	Schools with toilet	Schools with drinking water
2005/2006	3,261	2,421	2,220	11,931	6,585	6,766	15,307	7,990	8,183	8,749	4,875	4,736
2006/2007	3,636	2,792	2,715	13,750	7,608	8,675	16,410	8,745	10,004	9,054	5,195	5,612
2007/2008	3,604	2,907	2,918	15,449	8,839	10,599	17,315	9,679	11,678	9,742	5,844	6,677
2008/2009	4,155	3,208	3,176	16,439	9,684	11,137	17,881	10,370	11,890	10,213	6,348	6,845
2009/2010	4,535	3,524	3,391	17,471	10,526	11,345	18,579	11,066	11,865	10,768	6,891	6,985
2010/2011	4,969	3,344	3,804	18,801	10,483	15,320	19,723	10,976	16,015	11,709	6,795	9,329
2011/2012	4,487	3,915	3,884	18,915	11,617	10,851	19,833	12,006	11,078	11,567	7,834	6,984
2012/2013	5,352	4,626	4,347	19,277	12,938	10,734	19,854	13,330	10,939	12,436	8,836	7,235

Source: MOE, EMIS, 2005-2013

8.4 School Discipline

242. All schools in Ghana have codes of conduct for pupils and students which prescribe corrective measures when children misbehave. Although corporal punishment in schools is strictly prohibited, it has been observed that the most common corrective measure in most schools is the use of the cane. Other methods include weeding of the school compound, physical drills such as pulling of ears, kneeling down and carrying of weights, suspension, writing lines and dismissal from school depending on the severity of the case. Before a child is suspended or dismissed from school, the parents of the child are informed in writing stating the misdeed of the child.

243. The prevalence of corporal punishment is confirmed by a study by MOWAC/CURIOUS MINDS in 2009 which indicates that the cane is still used by class teachers in most public schools, contrary to the country's laws and educational policies and standards. In most second cycle institutions, disciplinary committees exist to investigate the offences committed by a student so as to determine the type of disciplinary action to take.

244. The Ghana Education Service has taken a number of actions aimed at total abolishment of corporal punishment. This is being done in the context of Child Friendly School programming. The Head Teachers hand book has been revised and teachers are being made aware of likely prosecution where children are brutalized (UNICEF, 2013). UNICEF and other stakeholders of the educational sector such as MoGCSP, DOVVSU, CHRAJ and civil society groups such as HRAC and the Ghana National Education Campaign Coalition (GNECC) are also working for



enforcement of the code of conduct for teachers which cautions teachers on the use of corporal punishment. Parents, civil society members, and even students themselves, are complaining about the extent of corporal punishment in schools. New guidelines suggest that the cane should not be used in schools and doing so is at the teacher's own risk. A manual on positive forms of discipline is being developed to assist teachers.

8.5 Factors That May Lead Children to Be Excluded From Education

245. Despite efforts made by government to improve access to education by children, there are still factors that impede their ability to attend school. Ignorance has been identified as a major factor that causes vulnerability and exclusion of children especially those in the rural areas. The situation is further worsened by illiteracy and lack of information, as parents who cannot read or write are not able to effectively access information on access to education for their children. Illiteracy perpetuates poverty and thus the affected parents struggle to meet the basic needs of their children, compelling them not to consider education as a priority. . Further, in such situations parents also make choices between educating their boy children and girl children, often choosing to educate the boys over the girls.
246. Studies (GSS/ILO, 2003) have also indicated that the need for cheap labour has forced many children to be out of school. Girls are often the worse affected as they are made to stay and look after their siblings and perform other domestic chores.
247. Children with disabilities, orphaned children, children infected or affected by HIV/AIDS may also find it difficulty in accessing education due to the special care they require. For instance, children with disabilities are perceived to be a source of shame for the family and as such are hidden. Some parents also find it difficult to send children with disabilities to special schools because of distance and financial constraints.

8.6 Measures put in place to ensure that some children are not excluded from education

248. To ensure all children have access to education, the government through MOE and GES, relevant MDAs, Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs), Civil Society Organisations have introduced programmes such as the



Capitation Grant Scheme, School Feeding Programme, Free School Uniform and Exercise Books Programme, Free Bus Ride for school children is being implemented to ensure that children from poor homes have access to education.

249. In 2009, a programme was commenced to promote enrolment and retention of vulnerable children in LEAP households by making school attendance a condition for accessing the grant. The LEAP also enhanced its target system to ensure that the core poor and the most vulnerable children households are targeted. The existence of special schools for children with hearing and intellectual disabilities has ensured that children in this group get the opportunity to be educated. The MOE and GES are implementing an integrated approach to education. Under this programme children with disabilities are to be integrated into the normal school system.
250. Complementary basic education programme: provides a 9 month flexible tuition in local language (mother tongue) on literacy and numeracy for out of school children and mainstream tem back into formal schools.

8.7 Leisure, Recreation and Cultural Activities (Article 12)

8.7.1 Leisure and Recreation

251. In accordance with the child's right to leisure and recreation, the Ghana Education Service has two breaks for children on their school timetable during which period children have the time to play, relax and eat. Children have days in which they go for club activities after school and it is compulsory for each child to belong to a club. Sporting activities are organised for schools at least once in the academic year.
252. Children's amusement parks are limited in Ghana. The most popular one, the Efua Sutherland Children's Park in Accra which is managed by the DOC, serves as the only government-owned recreational centre for both children and adults. The park is mostly open for children free-of-charge when there is no programme on the park, but when other organisers hold entertainment programmes, children are made to pay a gate fee. The proceeds of the park serve as Internally Generated Funds (IGF) for government, and it is used for maintenance services of the park. Most of the facilities on the park are in various states of disrepair and the Department of Children will need more than its retained proceeds from the IGF to put the park in a better condition.



253. It should also be noted that in almost every community in Ghana, there are designated places of some sort for children's leisure and recreation. These take the form of community centres, parks, cultural centres, and other open spaces where children gather to play. The irony is that whereas children in rural areas have enough space to play, they do not have adequate access to playthings, whereas children in urban areas have access to playthings, they often lack the space to play.

8.7.2 Cultural Activities

254. Cultural development activities for children in Ghana include cultural events, performances of dance, drama and poetry, festivals and exhibitions of arts and artefacts, artistic creation, improvement of exhibition venues (limited), preservation and promotion of socio-cultural heritage.

255. In equipping the youth and children with traditional and employable skills the National Commission on Culture (NCC) organizes training programmes to inculcate in the youth Ghana's rich cultural experiences, values and traditions. In 2009, a pilot training programme was organised for 50 out-of-school children and youth on batik/tie and dye production, wood carving, pottery, *kente* weaving, etc. After the training an exhibition was held to showcase their handiwork and certificate of training was presented to them. The training programme was replicated in all the 10 centres of the NCC.

256. Again in promoting local tourism, the NCC and the GES in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism and travel and tour operators occasionally organise excursions for schools and colleges to cultural heritage and historical sites in the country. Trips are also organised for children to diverse traditional festivals in conjunction with the various traditional councils. Children who belong to youth clubs once in a while get the opportunity to take part in cultural exchange activities between Ghana and other countries.

8.8 International Cooperation in Matters Relating to Education

257. The co-operation between the government of Ghana and the international community including non-governmental organizations to promote quality education has been very positive. The UN system, especially the agencies of UNICEF and UNESCO have been very supportive in providing funds and technical support to the MOE in many areas of educational development. Other development partners such



as the World Bank, DFID, Plan Ghana, World Vision International, and Action Aid among others have also assisted to promote quality education through research, awareness, advocacy, monitoring, capacity building, and support for service delivery.



CHAPTER NINE SPECIAL PROTECTION MEASURES

9.1 Introduction

258. Ghana's laws provide for the care and protection of children temporarily or permanently deprived of their family environment. Such children may include refugee children, separated or unaccompanied children and those internally displaced. These children are entitled to special protection and assistance provided by the State. Other measures in place include the establishment of administrative structures for addressing special needs of children in very difficult situations.

9.2 Children in Situations of Emergency (CSE)

259. Children in situations of emergency may include refugee children, separated or unaccompanied children and internally displaced children. Owing to the vulnerability of these children, they are entitled to special protection and assistance provided by the State.

9.2.1 Refugee, Returnee and Displaced Children (Articles 23 & 25)

260. Children who are not citizens of Ghana and who for certain reasons find themselves on the soil of Ghana are accorded similar rights as Ghanaian children. All processes required of children to be granted refugee status are observed. The following are used in ensuring that the refugee child is granted full rights:

- a) The articles of the United Nation's Convention relating to the Status of refugees of 1951
- b) Protocol relating to the Status of refugees of 1967
- c) The Organisation of African Unity Convention Governing Specific Aspects of Refugee Problem in Africa
- d) Refugee Law, 1992 (PNDCL 305D)

261. A refugee child who has been granted refugee status is issued an Identity Card (in the prescribed form), Residence Permit and a United Nation's Travel Document (where appropriate).



262. The DSW collaborates with other agencies to give special protection to refugee children by providing them and their mothers with shelter, food, counselling and other emotional support for their survival.
263. Other separated and unaccompanied migrant children, when found are handed over to the Ghana Immigration Service, who take them through the necessary immigration procedures and give them to the Department of Social Welfare (DSW).
264. The DSW collaborates with other agencies to provide shelter, food, counselling and other emotional support services to refugee or returnee children. The same services are provided for unaccompanied and displaced children. In extreme cases the DSW helps to settle refugee children in homes of fit persons. There are remnants of refugees from Liberia, Ivory Coast, and Sierra Leone still in the country. Incidentally, the actual number of these refugees is not known.

9.2.2 Children in Armed Conflict

265. Children in armed conflict are not a common phenomenon in Ghana because no such armed conflicts have occurred for children to be engaged in. Ghana has had a very peaceful and conflict-free atmosphere over a long period as a result of good governance and peaceful co-existence.
266. Incidentally, however, Ghana has occasionally experienced some internal ethnic and chieftaincy disputes which resulted in people being internally displaced within the period under review, with the NADMO assisting victims with relief services. The incidents in Bawku, Nkonya-Alavanyo, Peki-Tsito land conflict, Abotia chieftaincy conflict, Nafana-Ntora, Yendi and Bunkurugu-Yooyoo ethnic clashes can be cited.

9.3 Children in Conflict with the Law

267. In Ghana, children are criminally responsible when they attain age twelve. The Ghana Police Service is the state agency responsible for all criminal issues, including crimes committed by children and against children. The Juvenile Justice Act, 2003 (Act 653) provides the legal framework for juvenile justice in Ghana.



9.3.1 The Administration of Juvenile Justice

268. Ghana's Juvenile justice administration is in line with relevant international instruments, rules and procedures. It operates on the best interest of the child, thus ensuring the rights of child is guaranteed in all actions. Within the reporting period, 1,409 persons under 18 were placed in probation programmes of special rehabilitation (Table 9.1).

Table 9.1: Persons Under 18 years Placed in Probation Programmes for Special Rehabilitation (2005-2010)

Year	Male	Female	Total
2005	296	82	378
2006	98	0	98
2007	76	39	115
2008	138	73	211
2009	369	154	523
2010	51	33	84
Total	1028	381	1409

Source: DSW, 2011

269. According to the DSW, a number of training programmes have been held periodically for professionals who work in the administration of juvenile justice with funding from government, UNICEF and other international organizations. The aim of these training programmes is to equip professionals with knowledge of juvenile justice and other related child rights laws and policies.

9.3.2 Children Deprived of Their Liberty Including any Form of Detention, Imprisonment or Placement in Custodial Settings

270. The laws of Ghana prevent the detention of children in adult detention facilities but a number of juveniles were found held in police stations (pre-trial detention). Older children are more likely to be detained in adult detention facilities. Between 2005 and 2010, a total number of 1,748 children were reported to have been held in pre-trial detention in the Police Stations around the country (Table 9.2).



Table 9.2: Children held in Pre-trial Detention in the Police Stations (2005-2010)

Year	Male	Female	Total
2005	214	33	247
2006	240	27	267
2007	229	27	256
2008	278	50	328
2009	296	42	338
2010	265	47	312
Total	1522	226	1748

Source: Ghana Police Service, 2011.

9.3.3 Sentencing of Juveniles, in Particular the Prohibition of Capital Punishment and Life Imprisonment

271. Even though the law in Ghana allows the death penalty, children are exempted from capital punishment and no child has ever been subjected to the death penalty. In lieu of the death sentence, the Court shall order the detention of the juvenile at the pleasure of the President (Section 295 of the Criminal and Other Offences (Procedure) Act, 1960, Act 30). This provision has been strictly adhered to by the Courts.

9.3.4 Reformation, Family Reintegration and Social Rehabilitation (Article 17.3)

272. The DSW is the government agency in charge of child reformation, family reintegration and social rehabilitation. Between 2015 and 2013, DSW records indicate that 1,942 children were kept in DSW shelter (Refer to Figure 6.3). Other state institutions such as DOVVSU and CHRAJ also offer counselling services to children who fall victim to cruel inhuman or degrading treatment. Psychosocial-support services are provided and where needed, the affected children are placed in shelters or homes either run by DSW or NGOs (Refer Figure 6.4).

273. The DSW has initiated the Child Care Reform Initiative to address the concerns with institutionalisation of children and to ensure that institutions are used as a last resort and for limited periods only. The Initiative also ensures that standards are maintained in care institutions and orphanages. According to the DSW the increase in the number of institutionalized homes such as orphanages is not a good development for child development in the country. This is because it reflects the gradual break-down of family ties in relation to child upbringing, resulting in the



placement of many children in care institutions. DSW officials have also complained of non-conformity with the required national and international standards in the operation of homes. The Child Care Reform Initiative seeks to address most of these challenges.

9.4 Children of Imprisoned Mothers

9.4.1 Special Treatment to Expectant Mothers and to Mothers of Infants and Young Children who have been found Guilty by Law (Article 30)

274. Section 313A of the Criminal (and Other Offences Procedure) Act, 1960 (Act 30) mandates a court of competent jurisdiction in sentencing a woman for non-capital offence to order pregnancy test unless there are reasonable grounds to the contrary of that woman being post-menopausal. The section further provides that where the pregnancy test is positive the court shall suspend the sentence for such period as may require. When the sentence is suspended, the court is mandated to explain to the understanding of the offender that if another offence is committed by that offender within the period of suspension she would be liable to serve sentence for the original sentence in addition to the new offence committed
275. For capital punishment in respect of convicted women, section 312 of Act 30 stipulates that a test shall be conducted on the offender unless the court has reasonable grounds to believe that the offender is post-menopausal. Where the results of the test prove positive, the court shall convict the offender for life imprisonment and the offender ordered to be detained in an institution where the health needs of the offender are met and arrangements shall be made by the prisons service in consultation with the Department of Social Welfare within a District Assembly to ensure that after delivery offender's child does not remain in prison.
276. There are no express provisions regulating consideration of custodial sentence for mothers with young children except at the discretion of the Judge. This has been the subject of appeal, as there are examples of custodial sentences against mothers of young children being reconsidered on appeal by the Superior Courts.
277. The Children's Act makes provision for the imposition of a custodial sentence on parents including mothers, when they fail to provide good health, life and reasonable shelter to a child. This highlights the gaps in the legal framework



regarding the realisation of article 30 of the African Children's Charter in Ghana's criminal justice system.

278. The Criminal and Other Offences Procedure Act. (Act 30) provides for the sentencing of pregnant women who have been convicted of both capital and non-capital offences.
279. The Ghana Prison Services has initiated new reforms to create conducive atmosphere in prison. For instance, the Nsawam Prisons authorities have built a baby-friendly unit within the female section to serve as living quarters for convicted nursing mothers until the children come of age to be separated from them. Children delivered in prison and those brought along by their incarcerated mothers no longer share cells with their mothers at the Nsawam Prison. The facility was started on a pilot basis in 2006 and has since become part of the prisons reform programme. So far, 24 mothers and their children have benefited. During this period, 11 babies were born in the prison while 10 were brought in by their convicted mothers. Before this, children born to mothers serving prison terms were made to be with their mothers in the cells together with other inmates, a situation which exposed the children to all sorts of dangers and health risks.
280. The prison authorities indicated that when the babies are about one-and-a-half years, ready to be weaned, their immediate family members are notified to go for them. If they fail to show up by age two, the children are sent to the Children's Home and after the mothers have finished serving their terms, they are allowed to reunite with the children.
281. The Department of Social Welfare plays a liaison role between the family and convicted mother. Additionally the Prison Service and the Department of Social Welfare collaborate to ensure the mothers keep in touch with their families especially in cases where the mother request to see her children a family member or a social worker is allowed to bring the children to the visit their mothers for bonding

9.4.2 Reformation, Integration of the Mother into the Family and Social Rehabilitation (Article 30(f))

282. The Prison Service strives towards the reformation and rehabilitation of all prisoners through the following programmes in the prisons:



- a) Trade and Industry: female prisoners are encouraged to engage in any vocational training of their choice such as catering, soap making, textiles and weaving. This is to ensure an income for life after incarceration.
- b) Counselling: In conformity with modern correctional practices, the Prison Service engages the services of counsellors to help rehabilitate inmates and guide them away from criminal behaviour and tendency.
- c) Regular Visits: Mothers are entitled to a visit once a week to maintain their bonds with their families and societies.
- d) Freedom of convicted mothers to practice a religion of their choice: in compliance with the 1992 Constitution which allows for freedom of worship prisoners are allowed to join any religious sect of their choice.

9.5 Economic Exploitation Including Child Labour (Article 15)

283. Ghana's laws prohibit children's engagement in exploitative and hazardous labour, however, many children across the country engage in it. The Ministry of Employment and Social Welfare, in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs (MOWAC) and other child-focused MMDAs have specifically worked in partnership with other stakeholders within the period under review to enhance the fight against children working and/or living on the streets. These include following:

- a) Technical cooperation between the Government of Ghana, represented by the Ministry of Employment and Social Welfare (MESW) and the ILO/IPEC, following the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in March 2000. This has led to the implementation of many projects such as micro-credit schemes to parents to help alleviate poverty, scholarship schemes to intelligent and needy children who are engaged in child labour by District Assemblies
- b) MESW through the Labour Department is implementing a Child Labour Monitoring System, which allows the tracking and collection of data on children engaged in labour
- c) Both government and non-government actors organize periodic community sensitization on the dangers of children working and/or living on the streets at the national, regional and district levels. These



have had significant impact on how Ghanaians perceive children working and/or living on the streets

- d) Both the print and electronic media continue to be an important ally of government in reporting issues related to children working and/or living on the streets in Ghana

284. Specifically, the following projects which have supported a number of children and their families affected by the worst forms of child labour within the reporting period can be cited.

9.5.1 LUTRENA Project ‘Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa’ (LUTRENA: 2002-07)

285. Following the implementation of the ‘Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA: 2002-07) the following results were achieved:

- a) Reduced child vulnerability to trafficking through school enrolment – 45% of boys and 55% of girls were enrolled in school by December 2007
- b) An estimated 3,000 children (at least 45% girls) in and out of school were reached with information on the need to attend school
- c) At least 900 child victims of trafficking or those at risk were enrolled in school
- d) 570 parents of the beneficiary children were trained in various vocational skills
- e) Community surveillance teams were set up to monitor enrolment and retention of children in schools
- f) School performance and learning environment were improved by providing learning and recreational materials to 1,500 girls and 1,000 boys
- g) 2,500 children were retained in schools by providing them with school materials.



9.5.2 The West Africa Cocoa and Commercial Agriculture Project (2003-2006)

286. The West Africa Cocoa and Commercial Agriculture Project implemented from 2003-2006 empowered 500 families to take care of their children. The project also withdrew and prevented 1,000 children from agriculture through the mainstreaming and provision of school and training skills materials (Table 9.3).

Table 9.3: Percentage Distribution of Children withdrawn from Agricultural activities and supported

Name Of District	Percent
Amansie West	28
Atwima Mponua	23
Kassena-Nankena	22
Sefwi-Wiawso	14
Suhum-Kraboa-Coaltar	13
Total	100

Source: Child Labour Unit, 2011.

9.5.3 The Time Bound Programme (TBP) (2005-2009)

287. Through the Time Bound Project (TBP) families and children were provided different forms of support in areas such as fishing, stone quarrying, mining, agricultural farming, ritual servitude, sexual exploitation, cattle herding, and potorage. Beneficiary districts of the TBP programme were Ewutu-Efutu-Senya, Ajumako-Enyan-Essiam, Cape Coast, Wassa West, Jasikan, Kpando, South Tongu, North Tongu, Ketu, Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA) and Ga West.

288. The TBP resulted in the withdrawal of children in child labour and the enrolment of over 4,000 children in school and supported with basic school needs. About 9,000 children have also been prevented from engaging in child labour. Two hundred communities in 20 districts have been sensitized on child labour issues while some parents of beneficiary children also received training on income-generating activities and supported with start-up capital for business ventures.

9.6 Drug Abuse (Article 28)

289. Drug abuse is fast gaining ground among the youth in Ghana and it is believed that some children at the Senior High School level use drugs such as Indian hemp. It



has also been reported that about 90 percent of cases at the Accra Psychiatric Hospital annually, are drug abuse related, and the majority of the cases are young people. These reports provide enough evidence to suggest that drug abuse is fast gaining ground in Ghana among the youth.

290. As part of plans to address drug abuse among children, the government of Ghana has taken a firm stand against drug abuse and illicit drugs, and thus investigates cases involving drugs and is quick to impose sanctions on any person found culpable in this regard.

291. The government agencies such as the Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection (MGCSP) through the DOC and DOW have on a number of occasions carried out community awareness raising programmes throughout the country. The Narcotics Control Board (NACOB), which is the main body mandated to deal with issues related to drugs and controlled substances periodically, also, carries out public campaigns to stem the flow of drugs into the country.

292. The media in Ghana has increased its campaign and reportage of issues on drugs and has helped in investigating and tracking reports on drug trafficking.

9.7 Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Article 27)

293. Children are protected by law from sexual exploitation and abuse. The Criminal Code (Amendment) Act 1998, (Act 554) criminalizes a range of sexual offences in sections 11 to 13. The offences include rape, indecent assault, defilement, forced marriage, prostitution of a child under 16 years and allowing persons under 16 to be in brothels. The law protects both boys and girls from any sexual exploitation and it has increased the age of sexual consent from under 14 years to under 16 years.

9.7.1 Sexual Exploitation

294. According to media reports, sexual exploitation involving children is a fast growing phenomenon in Ghana. There is, however, not much statistical data available to determine the actual number of children and other young people involved. Media reports indicate that children engage in commercial sex work as a result of parental neglect, peer pressure and the quest to become rich at an early age.

295. In 2009, an investigation conducted by a private media house in Accra, showed that children are exploited sexually in brothels in Accra. Similar occurrences have



also been reported in other parts of the country, indicating that the phenomenon could be a growing problem in the future if steps are not taken to curb it. Another research conducted commercial sex workers by the Human Rights Advocacy Centre (HRAC), showed significant sexual abuse of sex workers by Police officers. The research, which was commissioned in 2011 by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), sampled 150 commercial sex workers and 150 Ghana Police Service officers in five regions. The objective of the study was to fill a gap in knowledge about the commercial sex phenomenon in Ghana and ascertain the extent and types of abuses suffered by female sex workers (FSW) at the hands of the Ghana Police Service (GPS) officers. The research concluded a problem of police abuse of female sex workers. Interviews with police officers also revealed that their knowledge related to sexual laws and international human rights law was poor (HRAC/UNFPA, 2011).

296. The causes of child commercial sexual activity in Ghana are economic deprivation and irresponsible parenting, and lack of adequate shelter for children of some poor parents. The lack of employable skills and the lack of parental control, as well as peer pressure exacerbate the incidence of the phenomenon. To address the causative factors, government has initiated the following as the national response to child sexual exploitation:

- a) Community sensitization on the dangers of child sexual exploitation
- b) Scholarship schemes to intelligent and needy children who are engaged in commercial sex work
- c) Micro-credit schemes to parents to help alleviate poverty
- d) International organizations providing technical support to help in the eradication of child labour in Ghana
- e) Government agencies such as MOWAC and DSW have occasionally collaborated with civil society groups to identify, counsel, offer livelihood skills training, reintegrate or resettle sex workers.
- f) Some other programme interventions have been made to address problems associated with sexual exploitation of children. This includes the provision of support under the ILO/IPEC Country Programme titled 'Children in Tourism in Cape Coast and Elmina in the Central Region' This led to the withdrawal of three hundred and forty-six (346) children



(189 males and 157 females) from commercial sex exploitation of children. The National Time Bound Programme, which is supported by ILO/IPEC also led to the withdrawal of 100 children, protection of 2,500 children from commercial sex exploitation, support to 400 families and five communities sensitised.

9.7.2 Sexual Abuse

297. There is strong evidence to indicate the occurrence of sexual abuse in the family in Ghana. Cases of home-related violence have been reported by the media, whilst records at the DOVVSU of the Ghana Police Service also provide information on the occurrence of the phenomenon

298. The most commonly reported sexual abuse cases are defilement, incest, harassment, indecent assault and unnatural carnal knowledge. In a few instances boys become victims of sexual violence, most victims of sexual violence within the family are girls. Incest is the most common sexual violence that occurs in the home. Sexual abuse and harassment are commonly perpetrated against girls at school and in other educational settings. Table 9.4 provides some figures on number of sexual offences reported in 2005-2013. The cases reported include the cases that occurred in schools.

299. There are institutions set up to enforce the rules and regulations on child sexual abuse in Ghana. Notable amongst them are DOVVSU, MOWAC, DSW, FIDA, HRAC, Ark Foundation, Child Rights International and the Ghana Legal Aid Board. These institutions including the media provide various services for the prevention of and protection against sexual offences in the country.



Table 9.4: Reported Sexual Offences Against Children (2005-2013)

Offence	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total
Defilement	713	1427	1578	1077	1207	918	1168	1111	1228	13362
Incest	11	11	10	14	22	21	15	18	26	216
Unnatural canal knowledge	12	16	17	15	24	10	16	6	18	159
Attempted abortion	18	35	59	42	51	30	42	45	31	408
Sodomy	1	4	9	12	2	5	12	8	6	59
Compulsory marriage	9	7	10	11	11	21	16	11	21	117
Attempted defilement	5	4	5	13	13	10	22	15	8	101
Carnal knowledge of an idiot			18	13	6	1	15	15	10	78
Indecent exposure			1							1

Source: DOVVSU Records, 2014.

300. Both government and CSOs use the print and electronic media to educate and sensitise the public on the forms of sexual abuse and the responses should a child fall victim. The establishment of DOVVSU has ensured that cases are dealt with speedily and many of the officers of the Unit have been sensitised. These measures and others have resulted increased public confidence to report cases.

301. Some NGOs such as the Ark Foundation and HRAC provide legal assistance to child victims of sexual violence. The HRAC for instance has assisted eleven (11) children between 2011 and 2013.

9.8 Begging

302. Begging is a common phenomenon in the country, involving children and adults of both sexes. Begging occurs everywhere in the country but worse in the Regional capitals, where children are used. The act of begging constitutes a criminal act in Ghana according to the Beggars and Destitute Act, 1969 (NLCD 392).

303. Section 87 (a) and (b) of the Children’s Act of 1998 (Act 560) prohibits the use of children for any exploitative labour which deprives children of enjoying their rights to standard health, education and social development. This suggests that any person who uses children in begging commits an offence and the Police has the mandate to arrest such persons. The DSW and the Police has made several attempts



at getting beggars off the streets, but they end up returning to the streets. The DSW's major difficulty is with the provision of shelters and feeding.

9.9 Sale and Trafficking

304. Since 2005 when Ghana ratified the African Children's Charter, a lot of work has been done to combat human trafficking in Ghana. For instance, Ghana enacted the Human Trafficking Act, 2005 (Act 694) to deal with issues relating to child trafficking and punish offenders. Since the passage of the law, new structures have been established. These include the Human Trafficking Secretariat at MOWAC, an Anti-Trafficking Unit at the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) Headquarters of the Ghana Police Service, and a Human Trafficking Desk at the Ghana Immigration Service. Ghana ratified The Palermo Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children at its 35th sitting on 17th July 2009. The ratification was effected when Parliament passed a resolution for the ratification of the Protocol. Ghana has also entered into bilateral and multilateral agreements of cooperation with the neighbouring countries in the West African sub-region to deal with cross border trafficking.

305. Following the implementation of the 'Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa'(LUTRENA: 2002-07) the following results were achieved:

- a) Reduced child vulnerability to trafficking through school enrolment – 45% of boys and 55% of girls were enrolled in school by December 2007
- b) An estimated 3,000 children (at least 45% girls) in and out of school were reached with information on the need to attend school
- c) At least 900 child victims of trafficking or those at risk were enrolled in school
- d) 570 parents of the beneficiary children were trained in various vocational skills
- e) Community surveillance teams were set up to monitor enrolment and retention of children in schools
- f) School performance and learning environment were improved by providing learning and recreational materials to 1,500 girls and 1,000 boys

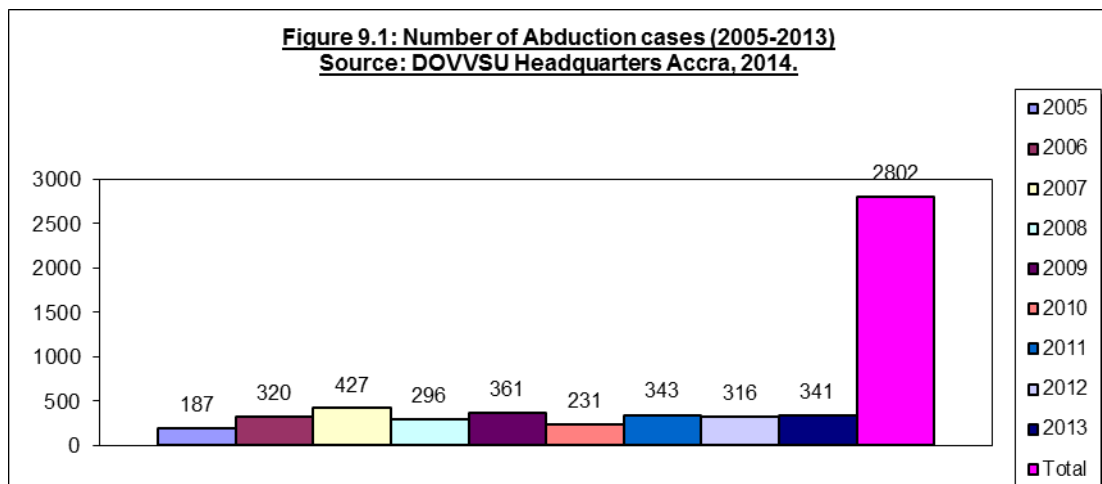


g) 2,500 children were retained in schools by providing them with school materials.

306. In spite of the achievements, there is need to either intensify or sustain all the efforts put in place through the provision of adequate financial, human and material resources to agencies, government departments and ministries responsible for activities and policies concerning the welfare, protection and development of children in trafficking. The effective implementation of the Human Trafficking Act also needs to be pursued.

9.10 Child Abduction

307. Child abduction constitutes a serious crime and the Ghana Police Service places high priority on it. The Police therefore assist in the recovery of abducted children when reported. Reports from the Police, indicates that between 2005 and 2013 (Figure 9.1), 2802 child abduction cases were reported and the perpetrators arrested. Most of the cases resulted in prosecution with the appropriate sentence being given.



9.11 Children Victims of Harmful Social and Cultural Practices affecting the Welfare, Dignity, Normal Growth and Development of the Child:

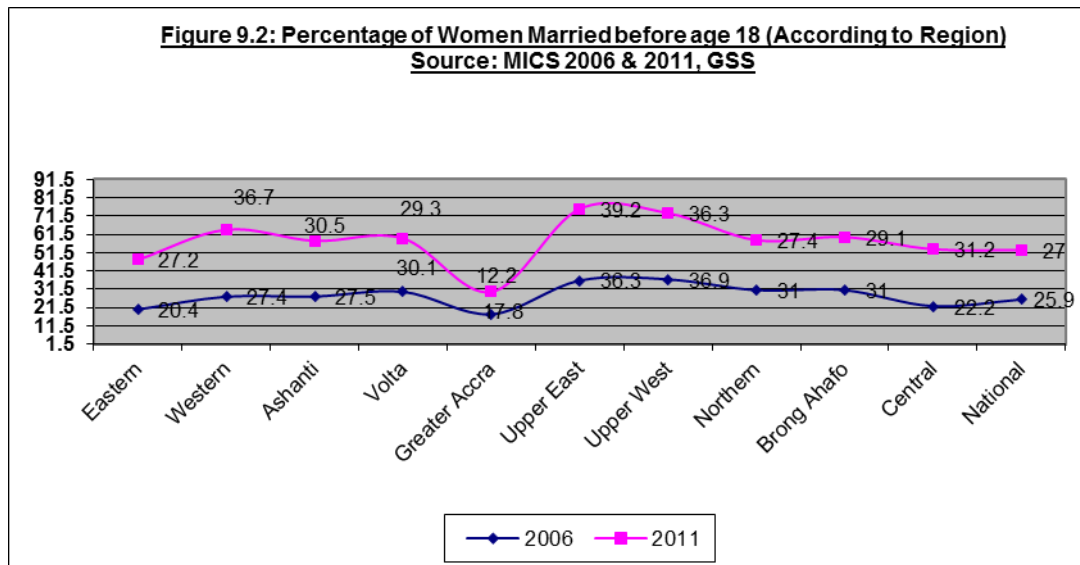
9.11.1 Early and Forced Marriage (Article 21.2)

308. As indicated earlier in chapter three of this report, the legal minimum age for marriage of whatever kind is 18 years under The Children’s Act. A child has the right to refuse betrothal; to be a subject of a dowry or transaction and to be married



under 18 years. Incidentally, in spite of the fact that early marriage before the age of 18 is still a reality for some young girls even though it is against the laws of Ghana.

309. The 2011 Multiple Indicator Cluster Sampling Survey (MICS) report shows that early marriage is a nationwide phenomenon, which occurs in all the regions. Official results of the 2011 MICS shows an increase in the proportion of early marriages from 25.9 percent to 27 percent in the country (Figure 9.2).



310. Child marriage in Ghana is associated with having lower levels of education, being in a poor household and residing in rural areas. Married girls are much less likely than their unmarried peers to attend school. A family’s decision to have a child married (girl or boy) is often a survival strategy to relieve the family of what they perceive to be a financial burden in the face of acute poverty

311. In cases where a child is forced to marry, when reported, action is instituted at the Court and the parents of the child together with the would-be-husband are restrained from executing the marriage.

9.11.2 Betrothals

312. Even though girl betrothal is not a common practice in Ghana, there are occasional reports of its occurrence in certain parts of the country. The Children’s Act explicitly prohibits betrothal of children and all forms of early marriage.



9.11.3 National Response on Forced and Early Marriage

313. The DOVVSU, DSW, CHRAJ and MoGCSP exist to protect children from any form of illegal marital practices. Incidentally, however, there are cases of early marital practices still prevailing in the country. The agencies together with civil society embark on interventions to tackle early/forced marriages. The under mentioned can be cited:

- a) Advocacy/awareness creation on the rights of children from especially early /forced marriages
- b) Data collection to establish the situation/trend of forced marriages in Ghana and thus facilitate the designing of appropriate strategies and interventions to combat the phenomenon
- c) Rescue of children being forced into marriage. It is on record that through the activities of CHRAJ and the Ghana Police Service a number of persons/ children were prevented from being a subject of dowry or marriage
- d) Establishment of child protection teams in endemic communities. These teams served as surveillance groups to ensure the total protection and development of the child and thus contribute to the reduction in the space of child marriages.
- e) Prosecution of indignant parents who notwithstanding these awareness creation interventions tend to give their children out for marriages.
- f) Poverty reduction strategies through LEAP where cash transfer was made to poor households so as to reduce the status of vulnerability regarded as a push factor in parents giving their children out for marriage
- g) A National Child Protection Policy has been proposed to address the holistic protection issues of children. The Policy is further intended to design an implementation plan.

9.11.4 Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (Article 21.1(a))

314. The Criminal Amendment Act, 1998 (Act 554) Criminalizes FGM in Ghana and yet it is still being practiced in the country. The form of FGM commonly practiced is Type II (referred to as excision). Other forms, such as the Type I or clitoridectomy and Type III (infibulation) are also practiced but on a very minimal scale. The extent of the practice in Ghana as a whole is limited. These forms are



generally practiced among a few groups in northern Ghana. There are also some migrants from neighboring countries who now practice it in southern Ghana.

315. The 2011 MICS indicates that four percent of women aged 15-49 years in Ghana have had any form of FGM/C. Among girls aged 0-14, FGM prevalence is less than one percent. The practice is found to be most prevalent in the Upper West (41%) and Upper East (28%) Regions. The survey findings indicate that two percent of women aged 15-49 years approve of FGM practice, while 94 percent of them believe that it should be discontinued. The survey also found FGM to be highest in older women and lower in women aged 15-49 years with some level of education. This may suggest a decline in the practice due to enforcement of law and awareness creation.
316. The practice of FGM is believed to be on the decline in Ghana as a result of legislation, strong government commitment, extensive community outreach by both government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and a general receptivity to abandoning the practice. FGM is banned under the Constitution and is a crime punishable under the Children's Act and the Criminal Code (Amendment) Act of 1994 and 1998.
317. In order to eradicate the practice there is still need to carry out the under mentioned:
- a) Intensification of sensitisation programmes to increase public awareness of the effects of the practice.
 - b) Inclusion of FGM issues in the monthly reports from clinics to the hospitals for monitoring purposes.
 - c) Increase education through the primary health care programmes and the use of community health nurses in door-to-door contact campaigns.
 - d) Vigorous application of law on FGM, and people must be encouraged to reports incidents of the phenomenon if they occur.

9.12 Children Who Need Special Protection on Account of Being in Risky or Vulnerable Conditions And Situations

9.12.1 Street Children

318. The street children phenomenon is still a problematic issue in Ghana. Some of the major causes of the phenomenon are rural-urban drift, the poverty of parents, the



survival of the children and the harsh economic conditions prevailing in the deprived areas they come from. The exact number of street children in Ghana is still not known but there is evidence of its existence and ascendancy.

319. Some of the initiatives undertaken to reduce the phenomenon include equipping street children with livelihoods skills, re-integrating them into families, placing them in formal and non-formal education as well as granting them business training and micro-grant support to their parents/guardians
320. The government of Ghana has had significant support from the CSOs, NGOs, CBOs, Faith Based Organisations (FBOs), and Traditional Authorities to address the problem through the identification, rehabilitation and reintegration of street children in the country.
321. As a start an in-depth study and a systematic assessment of the street children phenomenon has been undertaken by the Department of Social Welfare in the Greater Accra Region. The study is to be replicated in the remaining nine regions of Ghana.

9.13 HIV/AIDS Orphans (Article 26)

322. About 190,000 children (15-24 years) are orphaned by HIV/AIDS, whilst about a million children are orphaned due to all other causes (UNICEF, 2012) in Ghana as reflected in Table 9.5. An OVC policy formulated in 2005 has served as an appropriate document in regulating issues related to vulnerable children in the country. As mentioned earlier in the report, a Child and Family Policy will also be finalized by the end of 2014 to complement another existing policies that seek to improve the welfare of vulnerable children such as orphans, destitutes, and other child victims of exploitation and neglect. The MoGCSP is leading the process.

Table 9.5: Data on Orphans (2012)

Indicator	Frequency/Percentage
Children orphaned by AIDS	190 (thousands)
Children orphaned due to all causes (thousands)	1,000 (thousands)
Orphan school attendance ratio	76 percent

Source: UNICEF at a Glance: Ghana, 2012.



CHAPTER TEN

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHILD

10.1 Introduction

323. Unlike the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) which mainly focuses on the rights of the child, the African Children's Charter provides for responsibilities of the child in addition to spelling out rights. This chapter outlines the responsibilities of the Ghanaian child to the state, family, community and school.

10.2 Legislative measures regarding the duties of children towards the State

324. Ghana's legal instruments do not make specific provisions on the responsibilities of the child but instances where the child is required to exercise acts of responsibility are provided in various legal instruments.

325. For instance, under Section 17 of The Children's Act, 1998 (Act 560) any person, including children, with information on (a) child abuse; or (b) a child in need of care and protection shall report the matter to the Department of Social Welfare. Section 6 (1) of The Human Trafficking Act, 2004 (Act 694) also places duty on a any person with information about trafficking to inform the police, the Commission of Human Rights and Administrative Justice, the Department of Social Welfare, the Legal Aid Board, or a reputable Civil Society Organisation.

326. Similar provisions are also espoused in Section 6 (1) (2) of the Domestic Violence Act, 2007 (Act 732) placing responsibilities on any victim of domestic violence or a person with information about domestic violence to file a complaint about the domestic violence with the Police. The child does this through a next friend. These provisions indicate that a child has responsibility in reporting, domestic violence, human trafficking and any cases of child abuse.

327. The child being a citizen of Ghana also has responsibilities in respecting laws and authority, and also protecting state property as well as the Constitution. Children like any other citizen of Ghana are required under Article 3(4), 1992 Constitution to defend the Constitution, and in particular, to resist any person or group of persons seeking to suspend, abrogate, or overthrow the Constitution and to do all in their power to protect the Constitution of Ghana. To give effect to this provision, children are enjoined to ensure that all acts by any person are within the



powers and limits stipulated in the Constitution. The following circumstances may trigger the responsibility of a child or participation of the child in defending the 1992 Constitution:

- a) When the child is a victim in criminal proceedings, that child may be a witness in court.
- b) General witness to any proceedings in court by virtue of Section 58 of the Evidence Act, 1975 (Act 323) which stipulates that every person is a witness and no person is disqualified from testifying to any matter unless that person cannot express himself and be heard or does not understand the duty of a witness as stated in section 59 of Act 323.
- c) In adoption matters, the view of the adoptive child is considered as provided for in section 72 of Act 560 where the adoptive parent is required to inform the child about the adoption taking into account the age of the child and the welfare principle.
- d) The general opinion of a child capable of forming one is sought in matters that affect the child. This is stipulated in section 11 of Act 560.
- e) During the arrest of a juvenile by a police officer or any person by a warrant, that officer or person is required to inform the juvenile the content of the warrant and exhibit same to the juvenile and that juvenile is required to comply. This is stated in section 8 of Act 563.

10.3 The duties of children towards the parents and the family

328. Every child belongs to a home and at home, the family provides the child's basic needs such as education, health, nurturing, love, nutritional and any other needs relevant for a proper growth and development of the child. In response the child also has some responsibilities towards the home. These include:

- a) Respect to parents and other elders in the household
- b) Assist in household chores
- c) Protect other siblings younger or less stronger
- d) Protect family property



10.4 The duties of children towards the school authorities

329. The school is one of the settings children spend their time (find a suitable phrase). At the school, school authorities are bound to put measures in place for the protection and safety of the child. Thus the responsibility of school authorities is to educate, train and keep children safe from harm. In school, the child also has responsibilities. These include:

- a) Following school regulations
- b) Respecting school authorities
- c) Respecting other schoolmates
- d) Carrying out assigned duties on school compound
- e) Protecting other schoolmates younger or less stronger
- f) Protecting school property

10.5 The duties of children towards the community

330. The African Children's Charter emphasizes that children have a responsibility to work for the cohesion of the family and the overall stability of the community. This is in respect of:

- a) Showing respect to elders in the community at all times
- b) Assisting community members in times of need



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ANNEX

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ANNEX

Table A1: Top Ten Causes of Admission for Children Under 5 Years- National 2010

Rank	Cause of Admission	Proportional Morbidity Rate (%)
1	Malaria	58.1
2	Anaemia	12.8
3	Diarrhoeal diseases	5.1
4	Pneumonia	3.3
5	Malnutrition	1.1
6	Septicaemia	0.8
7	Typhoid fever	0.8
8	Upper respiratory tract infections	0.6
9	HIV/AIDS related conditions	0.5
10	Injuries	0.4

Source: RCH/PHD, 2011

Table A2: Infant Mortality Rates

Region	1988	1993	1998	2003	2008
Western	76.9	76.3	68.0	66.0	51.0
Central	138.3	71.6	83.8	50.0	73.0
Greater Accra	57.7	58.4	41.4	45.0	36.0
Volta	73.5	77.8	53.8	75.0	37.0
Eastern	70.1	55.9	50.2	64.0	53.0
Ashanti	69.8	65.2	41.9	80.0	54.0
Brong Ahafo	65.0	48.7	77.3	58.0	37.0
Northern	103.1	113.7	70.1	69.0	70.0
Upper east	103.1	105.0	81.5	33.0	46.0
Upper west	103.1	84.5	70.6	105.0	97.0
National	77	66	57	64	50
Rural	86.8	82.2	67.5	70.0	56.0
Urban	66.9	544.9	42.6	55.0	49.0

Source: DHS 1998, 1993, 1998, 2003 and 2008.



Table A3: Under Five Mortality Rate

Region	1988	1993	1998	2003	2008
Western	151.2	131.8	109.7	109.0	65.0
Central	208.2	128.0	142.1	90.0	108.0
Greater Accra	103.8	100.2	62.0	75.0	50.0
Volta	132.7	116.4	98.0	113.0	50.0
Eastern	138.1	93.2	89.1	95.0	81.0
Ashanti	144.2	97.6	78.2	116.0	80.0
Brong Ahafo	122.6	94.6	128.7	91.0	76.0
Northern	221.8	237.0	171.3	154.0	137.0
Upper east	221.8	180.1	155.3	79.0	78.0
Upper west	221.8	187.7	155.6	208.0	142.0
National	155	199	108	111	80
Rural	162.5	149.2	122.0	118.0	90.0
Urban	131.1	89.9	76.8	93.0	75.0

Source: RCH/PHD, 2011.

Table A4: Antenatal Coverage

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	76.6	74.0	76.1	86.1	80.7
Brong Ahafo	90.0	97.4	101.8	102.1	97.9
Central	103.6	103.8	108.7	115.5	109.1
Eastern	82.0	86.0	87.2	98.2	93.4
Greater Accra	83.1	77.2	77.2	85.2	77.4
Northern	116.6	109.0	116.8	127.7	120.8
Upper East	95.3	104.2	111.7	102.1	100.1
Upper West	86.1	90.3	96.3	93.5	88.9
Volta	84.1	87.1	87.4	93.4	88.9
Western	90.2	93.0	91.7	98.8	93.5
National	88.7	88.1	91.1	97.8	92.1

Source: RCH/PHD, 2011.



Table A5: Supervised Delivery

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	54.3	40.8	26.7	35.0	42.4
Brong Ahafo	62.0	47.4	34.5	49.8	53.7
Central	77.1	74.0	22.3	56.3	52.5
Eastern	58.45	38.7	43.1	48.0	52.1
Greater Accra	48.6	42.2	43.1	50.3	47.9
Northern	57.5	25.1	27.7	26.0	36.1
Upper East	53.5	38.4	43.5	40.4	52.6
Upper West	66.5	28.8	32.9	40.6	36.7
Volta	42.0	35.4	33.3	37.5	39.4
Western	35.8	34.8	17.6	39.1	42.6
National	54.2	44.5	32.1	42.2	45.6

Source: RCH/PHD, 2011.

Table A6: Post Natal Care

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	47.1	51.9	50.6	51.6	38.4
Brong Ahafo	57.0	53.8	57.1	57.2	53.7
Central	76.0	68.5	73.4	77.6	71.4
Eastern	62.9	60.8	61.5	61.5	67.0
Greater Accra	47.6	44.8	48.5	48.7	51.7
Northern	73.2	70.8	76.8	80.7	84.9
Upper East	56.9	60.7	66.9	57.3	77.8
Upper West	62.0	54.3	70.1	68.7	64.9
Volta	53.9	53.9	55.6	50.5	47.3
Western	35.5	35.5	37.6	45.6	49.5
National	55.0	53.7	56.7	57.5	56.4

Source: RCH/PHD, 2011.



Table A7: Family Planning Acceptors

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	14.1	15.3	15.2	15.7	17.5
Brong Ahafo	41.0	42.9	40.9	36.3	43.4
Central	32.6	37.0	29.6	33.0	33.1
Eastern	24.7	35.0	33.3	33.1	32.9
Greater Accra	17.7	20.4	16.4	63.9	32.6
Northern	19.4	17.8	20.1	26.0	28.9
Upper East	20.7	26.7	27.4	26.2	33.0
Upper West	53.9	54.3	85.0	26.2	56.5
Volta	25.7	27.9	23.7	59.8	27.5
Western	13.8	15.2	13.9	21.6	18.9
National	22.6	25.4	23.2	33.8	31.1

Source: RCH/PHD, 2011.

Table A8: HIV Indicators on Children

Indicator	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
HIV related deaths among children	3,245	3,278	2,936	2,816	2,566	2,276
Children infected by HIV and Aids	15,011	18,116	21,828	26,133	25,666	25,756
Children on antiretroviral therapy	119	122	308	450	722	894
HIV prevalence among pregnant youth 15-24 years	1.0%	2.5%	2.6%	1.9%	2.1%	

Source: NACP reports, 2010.

**Table A9: Fertility Indicators**

Year	1998	2003	2008
Age at first sex	17.6 years	18.3 years	19.2 years
Age at first marriage	19.1 years	19.6 years	20.1 years
Early Births (<20 years)	32%	23%	13%
Adolescent Birth rate	90/1000	74/1000	66/1000
Adolescent contraceptive use	5%	6.9%	8.5%

Source: Demographic and Health Survey (1998, 2003 & 2008).

Table A10: Adolescent Pregnancy (Institutional)

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
ANC Coverage	88.7%	88.4%	90.1%	97.8%	92.1%
Proportion of Adolescents	13.7%	13.2%	12.4%	12.3%	12.4%
Absolute Number	107,157	104,510	103,290	113,290	110,520

Source: RCH/PHD, 2011

Table A11: HIV Prevalence among Pregnant Women attending ANC Clinics

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	3.0	3.7	3.8	3.0	3.9
Brong- Ahafo	3.3	2.8	3.3	2.6	2.9
Central	2.9	2.5	2.9	2.0	3.0
Eastern	4.7	4.9	4.2	4.5	4.2
Greater Accra	2.1	3.4	3.4	3.0	3.2
Northern	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.1	2.0
Upper East	2.6	3.2	2.5	2.0	2.2
Upper West	2.6	2.5	3.3	1.6	3.1
Volta	1.9	3.	2.	1.7	2.6
Western	2.9	4.3	3.2	2.9	3.1
National	2.7	3.2	2.6	2.2	2.9

Source: NACP/PHD, 2011



Table A12: Disaggregated Data on Adolescent Pregnancy by Age Group and Region (10-14 years)

Region	2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Ashanti	265	0.2	266	0.2	246	0.2	364	0.3	357	0.2	360	0.2
Brong Ahafo	177	0.2	229	0.3	267	0.3	294	0.3	530	0.6	211	0.2
Central	99	0.1	149	0.2	168	0.2	187	0.2	183	0.2	196	0.2
Eastern	193	0.3	168	0.2	159	0.2	172	0.2	272	0.3	188	0
Greater Accra	106	0.1	227	0.2	145	0.1	157	0.1	249	0.2	205	0.2
Northern	44	0.1	110	0.1	51	0.1	42	0	120	0.1	75	0.1
Upper East	6	0.02	12	0.03	21	0.1	20	0	59	0.1	31	0.1
Upper West	84	0.4	14	0.1	24	0.1	18	0.1	27	0.1	28	0.1
Volta	92	0.2	128	0.2	143	0.2	145	0.2	157	0.2	134	0.2
Western	316	0.4	271	0.3	171	0.2	217	0.3	315	0.3	266	0.3
National	1,382	0.2	1,574	0.2	1,395	0.2	1,616	0.2	2,269	0.2	1,694	0.2

Source: NACP/PHD, 2011



Table A13: Disaggregated Data on Adolescent Pregnancy by Age Group and Region (15-19 years)

Region	2005		2006		2007		2008		2009	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Ashanti	17,287	13.2	15,973	12.2	16,225	11.7	18,845	11.6	19,357	12.3
Brong Ahafo	9,635	13.0	11,707	14.3	11,766	13.4	12,457	13.8	11,748	13.2
Central	11,289	15.0	11,396	15.2	11,522	15.1	12,582	14.7	12,289	14.7
Eastern	11,503	14.8	11,085	14.1	11,061	13.1	12,357	13.4	12,072	13.5
Greater Accra	14,322	12.0	11,422	9.9	10,455	8.6	11,999	9.9	10,753	8.1
Northern	13,228	13.6	10,962	11.6	11,306	10.6	12,046	10.4	11,793	10.5
Upper East	5,601	15.1	6,896	16.8	5,995	13.6	5,846	14.2	5,580	13.7
Upper West	2,449	10.9	2,937	11.6	6,864	12.2	2,168	10.5	2,803	11.9
Volta	9,176	15.0	8,900	13.7	8,671	13.3	9,357	12.9	9,550	13.9
Western	12,667	15.5	11,642	14.2	11,642	13.4	13,362	13.6	12,881	13.4
National	107,157	13.8	103,115	13.0	101,527	12.2	111,021	12.1	108,826	12.2

Source: RCH/PHD, 2011.



Table A14: HIV Prevalence Among Young People

Regions	2005		2006		2007	
	Older Adolescent (15-19yrs)	Youth (15-24yrs)	Older Adolescent (15-19yrs)	Youth (15-24yrs)	Older Adolescent (15-19yrs)	Youth (15-24yrs)
Ashanti	1.9	2.1	0.8	2.1	0.63	2.8
Brong- Ahafo	0.0	1.8	0.6	1.3	2.03	3.14
Central	0.6	1.9	1.9	2.3	1.91	2.76
Eastern	1.0	2.6	2.0	3.6	2.14	4.6
Greater Accra	0.5	1.8	1.5	2.3	2.42	2.4
Northern	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.9	1.55	1.67
Upper East	1.7	2.5	2.5	3.3	1.65	3.1
Upper West	0.0	2.2	1.7	2.7	0.58	2.3
Volta	0.5	0.7	0.5	2.4	1.86	1.9
Western	1.5	3.1	2.1	3.0	1.9	3.2
National	0.8	1.9	1.4	2.5	1.6	2.6

Source: NACP reports for year 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007.



Table A15: Top Ten Causes Of Deaths for Children Under 5 Years -National

Rank	Cause of Admission	Proportional Morbidity Rate (%)
1	Malaria	20.2
2	Anaemia	6.3
3	HIV/AIDS related conditions	5.0
4	Pneumonia	4.9
5	Septicaemia	3.3
6	Diarrhoeal diseases	2.6
7	Malnutrition	1.8
8	Cerebro-Vascular Accident	0.9
9	Cardiac diseases	0.7
10	Meningitis	0.7
	All other causes	53.5

Source: CHIM/PPME-GHS, 2011.

Table A16: HIV Prevalence among pregnant women by Age Groups

Age Group	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
15-19 Yrs	0.8	1.4	1.6	1.2	1.9
20-24Yrs	2.4	2.9	2.9	2.3	2.2
25-29 Yrs	3.6	4.2	3.5	3.0	3.7
30-34 Yrs	3.2	3.7	2.9	2.8	3.4
35-39 Yrs	2.4	2.8	3.5	2.9	3.6
40-44 Yrs	3.7	3.3	1.7	1.8	4.0
45-49 Yrs	5.0	2.5	1.3	2.6	1.8
15-24 Yrs	1.9	2.5	2.9	1.9	2.1

Source: NACP/PHD, 2011.



Table A17: Guinea Worm Cases

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	59	53	18	5	2
Brong- Ahafo	293	204	42	11	2
Central	0	0	0	1	0
Eastern	17	8	7	2	1
Greater Accra	3	1	2	0	0
Northern	2981	3679	3237	479	237
Upper East	7	10	5	1	0
Upper West	333	93	23	1	0
Volta	286	86	22	1	0
Western	2	2	2	0	0
National	3,981	4,136	3,358	501	242

Source: Guinea Worm Eradication Programme, 2010.

Table A18: Tuberculosis Case Detection per 100,000 Population

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	53	49	51	54	53
Brong- Ahafo	28	31	36	30	38
Central	75	61	69	67	80
Eastern	75	72	71	71	80
Greater Accra	67	78	69	80	82
Northern	18	20	25	31	24
Upper East	34	32	51	48	48
Upper West	35	28	29	35	37
Western	64	61	58	68	80
Ashanti	76	75	73	74	74
National	57	57	61	61	64

Source: National TB Programme (PHD), 2011.



Table A19: Tuberculosis Cure Rate

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008
Ashanti	74.7	80.5	82.3	81.4
Brong- Ahafo	60.8	59.0	64.1	70.9
Central	62.9	71.4	81.8	87.1
Eastern	63.1	68.8	72.9	75.5
Greater Accra	80.5	76.0	82.5	82.0
Northern	66.0	66.4	76.3	74.8
Upper East	66.9	73.6	75.0	72.2
Upper West	47.4	56.3	44.5	42.1
Western	77.3	74.0	79.8	88.0
National	67.6	76.1	77.5	78.8

Source: National TB Programme (PHD), 2011.

Table A20: Measles Immunisation Coverage Rate (2005-2009)

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	79	73.7	77.7	80.7	87.1
Brong Ahafo	89	99.4	102.0	96.6	93.9
Central	85	89.0	94.0	94.4	98.1
Eastern	92	93.8	95.1	95.1	94.0
Greater Accra	67	65.9	67.3	67.3	74.0
Northern	96	112.4	109.2	109.2	119.7
Upper East	85	95.8	93.1	93.1	105.9
Upper West	78	101.1	90.0	90.0	90.6
Volta	69	71.0	78.8	78.3	78.3
Western	80	90.3	87.5	87.5	85.2
National	81	85.1	88.6	86.5	89.1

Source: Expanded Programme on Immunisation, 2010.



Table A21: Penta 3 (DPT3) Immunisation Coverage Rate (2005-2009)

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	73	71.0	72.3	76.8	83.7
Brong Ahafo	91	96.8	100.2	97.3	95.0
Central	88	88.4	92.6	92.2	96.6
Eastern	89	88.6	93.0	93.0	94.5
Greater Accra	66	65.4	67.8	68.3	72.7
Northern	112	115.2	123.7	114.5	123.0
Upper East	97	92.6	101.6	94.8	105.9
Upper West	76	92.4	93.9	87.5	90.1
Volta	75	77.5	83.8	83.8	82.9
Western	85	91.1	93.3	89.0	88.6
National	83	84.2	83.8	86.6	89.3

Source: Expanded Programme on Immunisation, 2010.

Table A22: OPV3 Immunisation Coverage Rate (2005-2009)

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	72	70.6	72.3	76.7	86.61
Brong Ahafo	91	97.1	101.3	97.2	93.76
Central	102	88.2	92.7	90.9	93.66
Eastern	91	88.8	93.3	92.7	94.15
Greater Accra	66	64.8	67.4	68.4	72.28
Northern	112	113.3	122.5	114.2	122.13
Upper East	96	92.6	100.8	89.2	105.35
Upper West	75	92.3	93.8	87.4	89.27
Volta	76	78.0	83.6	83.8	83.11
Western	85	89.6	92.4	88.4	88.00
National	84	83.7	87.6	86.1	88.69

Source: Expanded Programme on Immunisation, 2010.



Table A23: BCG Immunisation Coverage Rate (2005-2009)

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	86	87.5	90.5	95.7	101.6
Brong Ahafo	99	111.6	114.5	111.6	111.1
Central	115	114.5	124.0	118.6	123.9
Eastern	114	110.2	110.6	111.7	114.2
Greater Accra	83	73.6	73.7	76.4	75.6
Northern	117	128.7	130.8	131.	139.5
Upper East	96	110.6	112.5	107.3	123.5
Upper West	88	110.0	109.1	107.3	14.6
Volta	89	91.4	98.1	105.2	94.5
Western	98	103.8	107.8	98.1	100.6
National	97	99.6	102.4	103.0	103.8

Source: Expanded Programme on Immunisation, 2010.

Table A24: Tetanus Toxoids Immunisation Coverage Rate, 2001-2008

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	64	68.3	69.0	80.2	83.1
Brong Ahafo	89	88.9	90.9	89.8	82.2
Central	88	78.7	81.9	93.2	89.6
Eastern	66	68.1	67.3	80.7	85.1
Greater Accra	60	56.8	50.3	59.6	66.8
Northern	96	78.5	95.0	97.9	108.0
Upper East	72	78.3	90.4	66.2	85.5
Upper West	43	52.3	67.4	71.6	71.2
Volta	68	59.7	57.0	63.7	63.9
Western	55	57.1	58.8	62.7	62.6
National	68	68.2	70.1	76.3	78.6

Source: Expanded Programme on Immunisation, 2010.



Table A25: Yellow Fever Immunisation Coverage Rate, 2001-2008

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ashanti	74	72.9	76.9	80.4	86.8
Brong Ahafo	93	98.4	100.9	94.8	94.0
Central	78	86.6	91.9	91.3	96.8
Eastern	91	90.8	95.5	95.4	94.2
Greater Accra	66	64.4	68.3	66.8	73.2
Northern	101	110.0	115.0	107.6	118.7
Upper East	88	92.6	101.1	84.8	107.5
Upper West	84	96.2	97.0	88.0	89.5
Volta	69	71.6	77.0	79.0	78.2
Western	73	93.6	96.6	93.1	84.7
National	80	84.0	88.1	86.0	88.8

Source: Expanded Programme on Immunisation, 2010.

Table A26: Households by locality and type of toilet used by the household (percent)

Utility	Urban Areas			Rural Areas			All	Ghana
	Accra (GAMA)	Other Urban	All	Rural Coastal	Rural Forest	Rural Savannah		
Flush toilet	33.2	16.7	22.2	1.4	1.1	0.7	1.1	10.2
Pit latrine	5.0	21.0	15.7	43.6	57.6	20.9	43.5	31.5
KVIP	15.8	13.8	14.4	11.3	11.8	4.6	9.5	11.7
Pan/bucket	3.2	2.3	2.6	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.3
Public toilet (flush/bucket/KVIP)	41.3	37.5	38.7	13.9	19.1	4.6	13.6	24.4
Toilet in another house	0.4	1.3	1.0	1.9	2.6	0.1	1.7	1.4
No toilet facility (bush, beach)	1.1	7.4	5.3	27.2	7.3	68.9	30.2	19.4
Other	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: GLSS5, 2008.



Table A27: Source of Water supply

Source of water supply	Urban Areas			Rural Areas			All	Ghana
	Accra (GAMA)	Other Urban	All	Rural Coastal	Rural Forest	Rural Savannah		
Pipe-borne	84.3	67.5	73.1	29.8	12.0	5.9	14.0	39.5
Indoor plumbing	10.9	7.3	8.5	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.2	3.8
Inside standpipe	31.3	17.2	21.9	2.9	1.8	2.2	2.1	10.7
Pipe in neighbouring household	28.7	15.2	19.7	4.3	0.1	1.5	1.4	9.3
Private Outside standpipe/tap	9.0	6.7	7.4	7.2	2.8	1.0	3.2	5.0
Public standpipe	4.5	21.1	15.6	14.6	7.2	1.2	7.0	10.7
Well	1.2	23.4	16.0	37.8	67.4	62.1	59.4	40.7
Borehole	0.1	9.0	6.1	27.6	55.5	53.4	48.9	30.4
Protected well	1.1	11.4	8.0	4.5	6.9	1.8	4.9	6.2
Unprotected well	0.0	2.9	2.0	5.8	5.0	6.9	5.7	4.1
Natural sources	0.1	3.7	2.5	29.1	20.3	31.9	25.7	15.7
River/stream	0.1	2.6	1.8	24.3	16.4	18.5	18.7	11.4
Rain water/spring	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.8	1.6	0.3	1.0	0.7
Dugout/pond/lake/dam	0.0	0.4	0.3	4.0	2.4	13.1	6.0	3.5
Other	14.3	5.4	8.4	3.4	0.3	0.0	0.9	4.1
Water truck/tanker service	1.3	0.8	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Water vendor	4.5	2.9	3.4	2.2	0.1	0.0	0.5	1.8
Sachet/bottled water	8.6	1.6	4.0	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	1.8
Other	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
All	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: GLSS5, 2008.



Table A28: National Enrolment Rates (by sex) In Crèche (2004/2005-2012/2013)

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
2005/2006	91,830	90,971	182,801
2006/2007	92,653	91,921	184,574
2007/2008	93,139	91,772	184,911
2008/2009	107,430	105,205	212,635
2009/2010	120,052	118,324	238,376
2010/2011	120,469	118,201	238,670
2011/2012	132,143	128,475	260,618
2012/2013	152,437	149,778	302,215

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

Table A29: Regional Enrolment Rates In Crèche (2005/2006 -2012/ 2013)

Region	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
Ashanti	34,918	40,807	42,634	52,136	56,456	58,060	67,599
Brong Ahafo	17,003	15,450	17,029	18,280	21,424	22,313	21,130
Central	19,586	20,586	20,423	23,822	29,636	29,650	31,526
Eastern	15,824	15,337	17,141	21,926	23,211	23,685	22,024
Greater Accra	29,801	36,107	38,732	43,088	50,614	49,904	58,197
Northern	24,062	17,465	16,009	18,547	19,062	14,951	16,263
Upper East	12,529	9,296	5,932	5,061	4,773	4,819	5,595
Upper West	4,391	2,958	3,168	2,620	2,571	3,203	3,050
Volta	9,940	10,837	9,459	11,195	11,375	10,893	9,861
Western	14,747	15,731	14,384	15,960	19,254	21,192	25,373

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013



Table A30: Regional Number of Crèches (2004/2005 -2012/2013)

Region	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
Western	1,412	264	316	281	326	367	402	444
Central	1,310	404	458	446	517	611	819	659
Greater Accra	957	602	780	824	947	1,066	1,081	962
Volta	1,169	211	234	214	259	257	310	206
Eastern	1,616	303	334	366	436	456	549	417
Ashanti	2,222	668	806	843	950	1,018	1,078	1,148
Brong Ahafo	1,282	261	260	272	300	321	339	312
Northern	632	309	255	219	271	283	266	225
Upper East	254	185	151	100	110	113	91	86
Upper West	190	54	42	39	39	43	34	28

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

Table A31: National Gross Enrolment / Pupil-Teacher Ratio of Crèches (2005/2006 – 2011/2012)

Year	Population	Enrolment	GER	Number of Teachers	PTR
2005/2006	2,498,077	191,094	7.6	5,735	33.3
2006/2007	2,565,486	184,574	7.2	6,656	28
2007/2008	2,634,760	184,911	7.0	6,710	28
2008/2009	2,705,885	212,635	7.9	7,202	30
2009/2010	2,778,932	238,376	8.6	8,824	27
2010/2011	2,845,816	238,670	8.4	8,268	29
2011/2012	2,914,120	260,618	8.9	9,529	27

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

**Table A32: National Enrolment Rates (by sex) In Kindergarten (2004/2005-2012/2013)**

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
2004/2005	369,019	362,312	731,331
2005/2006	498,524	500,295	998,819
2006/2007	552,995	551,784	1,104,779
2007/2008	632,421	626,062	1,258,483
2008/2009	671,822	666,632	1,338,454
2009/2010	723,833	716,899	1,440,732
2010/2011	749,764	741,686	1,491,450
2011/2012	776,852	766,462	1,543,314
2012/2013	807,738	796,767	1,604,505

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

Table A33: Regional Enrolment Rates In Kindergarten Schools (2004/2005-2011/2012)

Region	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
Ashanti	153,764	200,155	220,200	243,534	258,702	272,244	265,652	282,703
Brong Ahafo	99,564	142,068	150,514	166,256	172,386	185,667	182,804	187,396
Central	78,263	111,855	124,743	134,850	137,571	147,435	159,018	157,379
Eastern	96,300	118,677	126,472	144,390	154,495	160,603	164,133	166,181
Greater Accra	53,869	56,343	71,247	85,094	91,563	99,517	119,253	114,676
Northern	45,440	79,780	45,931	116,975	133,197	151,048	163,268	184,278
Upper East	19,939	36,919	42,503	51,097	55,586	63,389	72,802	71,018
Upper West	9,724	31,318	30,347	35,628	38,322	45,114	49,540	50,010
Volta	69,102	93,111	100,841	116,157	123,898	130,525	130,878	137,711
Western	105,366	128,593	147,948	164,502	172,734	185,190	184,102	191,962

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013



Table A34: Regional Number of Kindergartens Schools (2004/2005 -2011/2012)

Region	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
National	7,009	???	1,685	15,449	16,439	17,471	18,801	18,915
Western	987	1,458	1,685	1,810	1,892	2,007	2,098	2,179
Central	819	1,424	1,601	1,705	1,776	1,928	2,225	2,140
Greater Accra	286	869	1,122	1,341	1,459	1,632	1,719	1,645
Volta	913	1,280	1,464	1,620	1,708	1,740	2,033	1,813
Eastern	1,156	1,545	1,746	1,942	2,087	2,169	2,365	2,333
Ashanti	1,454	2,324	2,696	2,884	3,023	3,167	3,269	3,462
Brong Ahafo	979	1,551	1,670	1,790	1,863	1,960	1,982	2,085
Northern	261	810	1,004	1,423	1,593	1,742	1,846	1,957
Upper East	77	368	452	540	605	653	715	754
Upper West	77	302	310	394	433	473	549	547

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

Table A35: National Gross Enrolment Ratio / Pupil-Teacher Ratio In Kindergarten Schools (2004/2005 – 2011/2012)

Year	Population	Enrolment	GER	Number of Teachers	PTR
2004/2005	1,293,830	732,969	56.7	32,712	22.4
2005/2006	1,328,729	1,032,494	77.7	26,580	38.8
2006/2007	1,366,657	1,104,779	80.8	34,140	32
2007/2008	1,403,549	1,258,483	89.7	35,736	35
2008/2009	1,441,443	1,338,454	92.9	37,713	35
2009/2010	1,480,355	1,440,732	97.3	43,943	33
2010/2011	1,516,090	1,491,450	98.4	41,484	36
2011/2012	1,552,484	1,543,314	99.4	42,417	36

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

**Table A36: National Enrolment Rates (by sex) In Primary (2004/2005-2012/2013)**

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
2004/2005	1,525,548	1,403,988	2,929,536
2005/2006	1,606,178	1,516,725	3,122,903
2006/2007	1,732,162	1,633,600	3,365,762
2007/2008	1,860,289	1,755,734	3,616,023
2008/2009	1,908,232	1,802,415,	3,710,647
2009/2010	1,953,359	1,855,899	3,809,258
2010/2011	2,028,893	1,933,886	3,962,779
2011/2012	2,075,010	1,987,016	4,062,026
2012/2013	2,096,218	2,009,695	4,105,913

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

Table A37: Regional Enrolment Rates In Primary Schools (2004/2005-2011/2012)

Region	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
Ashanti	559,512	583,182	630,254	669,817	697,293	709,081	710,898	769,431
Brong Ahafo	294,308	328,695	343,227	367,535	383,113	398,165	398,248	428,498
Central	291,303	324,600	350,136	366,395	372,653	387,751	421,046	408,143
Eastern	350,655	350,875	383,348	412,239	413,749	408,875	408,929	419,617
Greater Accra	346,952	315,187	369,148	410,320	412,677	423,440	512,055	460,066
Northern	266,793	320,263	343,624	372,103	387,931	409,027	408,969	440,782
Upper East	152,819	176,908	184,546	199,560	199,065	203,803	210,402	217,350
Upper West	91,472	121,970	112,944	125,676	131,560	135,476	136,611	140,284
Volta	254,047	273,219	284,509	301,737	310,639	314,837	334,518	328,944
Western	321,675	328,004	364,026	390,641	401,967	418,803	421,103	448,911

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013



Table A38: Regional Number of Primary Schools (2004/2005-2011/2012)

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Western	1,761	1,646	1,787	1,878	1,939	2,034	2,218
Central	1,587	1,544	1,671	1,746	1,808	1,944	2,154
Greater Accra	1,492	1,214	1,459	1,634	1,708	1,848	1,886
Volta	1,686	1,582	1,665	1,718	1,767	1,775	1,812
Eastern	2,320	1,991	2,177	2,300	2,352	2,375	2,439
Ashanti	2,825	2,718	2,940	3,084	3,180	3,289	3,621
Brong Ahafo	1,776	1,818	1,838	1,908	1,945	2,022	2,133
Northern	1,630	1,711	1,819	1,929	2,023	2,375	2,211
Upper East	517	563	586	617	639	662	766
Upper West	434	520	468	501	520	536	593

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

Table A39: National Gross Enrolment Ratio / Pupil-Teacher Ratio In Primary Schools (2004/2005 – 2011/2012)

Year	Population	Enrolment	GER	Number of Teachers	PTR
2004/05	3,518,468	2,935,611	83.4	89,479	32.8
2005/2006	3,613,354	3,130,575	86.6	88,461	35.4
2006/2007	3,707,447	3,365,762	90.8	105,257	32
2007/2008	3,807,555	3,616,023	95.0	112,443	32
2008/2009	3,910,349	3,710,647	94.9	114,421	32
2009/2010	4,015,930	3,809,258	94.9	131,057	20
2010/2011	4,112,511	3,962,779	96.4	124,359	32
2011/2012	4,211,217	4,062,026	96.5	123,153	33

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

**Table A40: National Enrolment Rates (by sex) In JHS (2004/2005-2012/2013)**

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
2004/2005	548,156	462,090	1,010,246
2005/2006	557,261	483,741	1,041,002
2006/2007	605,086	527,232	1,132,318
2007/2008	652,146	571,864	1,224,010
2008/2009	684,113	601,164	1,285,277
2009/2010	690,664	611,276	1,301,940
2010/2011	707,847	627,553	1,335,400
2011/2012	729,034	656,333	1,385,367
2012/2013	759,884	692,701	1,452,585

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013**Table A41: Regional Enrolment Rates In JHS (2004/2005-2011/2012)**

Region	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
Ashanti	206,018	215,177	234,346	248,754	261,587	263,400	267,268	283,070
Brong Ahafo	94,109	102,887	110,393	117,076	126,254	126,938	130,465	136,463
Central	107,482	114,645	125,474	133,636	139,833	141,142	149,031	144,918
Eastern	121,542	118,733	131,765	142,748	147,235	143,288	144,665	145,885
Greater Accra	164,600	148,954	169,171	183,009	187,488	186,976	182,107	194,523
Northern	62,655	71,881	75,842	87,574	91,412	97,618	106,995	114,469
Upper East	35,106	38,083	41,495	46,552	51,383	57,672	62,020	66,420
Upper West	25,154	29,286	29,028	33,227	36,646	38,312	39,941	43,751
Volta	89,128	94,556	95,671	102,492	106,955	106,247	113,433	110,232
Western	104,452	106,800	119,133	128,942	136,484	140,347	139,475	145,636

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

**Table A42: Regional Number of JHS (2005-2011)**

Region	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Western	937	953	1,000	1,081	1,142	1,213	1,286
Central	1,079	1,098	1,166	1,239	1,294	1,389	1,479
Greater Accra	1,026	941	1,089	1,214	1,279	1,361	1,457
Volta	866	954	914	138 963	1,004	1,030	1,053
Eastern	1,254	1,169	1,254	1,348	1,392	1,414	1,473
Ashanti	1,542	1,647	1,704	1,828	1,939	2,029	2,259
Brong Ahafo	875	976	971	1,019	1,065	1,131	1,230
Northern	373	445	439	486	504	543	604
Upper East	215	249	238	263	287	329	374
Upper West	256	317	279	301	307	329	352

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

Table A43: National Gross Enrolment Ratio / Pupil-Teacher Ratio In JHS (2004/2005 – 2011/2012)

Year	Population	Enrolment	GER	Number of Teachers	PTR
2004/05	1,439,835	1,012,258	70.3	56,080	18.1
2005/2006	1,478,603	1,084,112	73.3	56,485	19.2
2006/2007	1,512,822	1,132,318	74.8	67,005	17
2007/2008	1,553,667	1,224,010	78.8	73,656	17
2008/2009	1,595,620	1,285,577	80.6	75,409	17
2009/2010	1,638,690	1,301,940	79.5	93,741	14
2010/2011	1,678,222	1,335,400	79.6	83,339	16
2011/2012	1,718,507	1,385,367	80.6	85,847	16

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

**Table A44: Number of Schools with Water and Toilet (2005/2006-2011/2012)**

Period	Preschool			Kindergarten			Primary			JHS		
	No of schools	Schools with toilet	Schools with drinking water	No. of schools	Schools with toilet	Schools with drinking water	No. of schools	Schools with toilet	Schools with drinking water	No of schools	Schools with toilet	Schools with drinking water
2005/2006	3,261	2,421	2,220	11,931	6,585	6,766	15,307	7,990	8,183	8,749	4,875	4,736
2006/2007	3,636	2,792	2,715	13,750	7,608	8,675	16,410	8,745	10,004	9,054	5,195	5,612
2007/2008	3,604	2,907	2,918	15,449	8,839	10,599	17,315	9,679	11,678	9,742	5,844	6,677
2008/2009	4,155	3,208	3,176	16,439	9,684	11,137	17,881	10,370	11,890	10,213	6,348	6,845
2009/2010	4,535	3,524	3,391	17,471	10,526	11,345	18,579	11,066	11,865	10,768	6,891	6,985
2010/2011	4,969	3,344	3,804	18,801	10,483	15,320	19,723	10,976	16,015	11,709	6,795	9,329
2011/2012	4,487	3,915	3,884	18,915	11,617	10,851	19,833	12,006	11,078	11,567	7,834	6,984
2012/2013	5,352	4,626	4,347	19,277	12,938	10,734	19,854	13,330	10,939	12,436	8,836	7,235

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013**Table A45: National Enrolment Rates of SHS (2005/2006-2011/2012)**

Year	Private	Public	Total
2005/2006	24,209	311,966	336,175
2006/2007	38,442	376,049	414,491
2007/2008	43,776	393,995	437,771
2008/2009	49,010	441,324	490,334
2009/2010	58,036	479,296	537,332
2010/2011	64,576	663,500	728,076
2011/2012	66,140	692,328	758,468

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

**Table A46: Regional Enrolment Rates In SHS (2005/2006- 2011/2012)**

Region	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
Ashanti	70,230	93,250	98,809	112,102	125,249	170,089	179,672
Brong Ahafo	34,189	37,380	40,089	47,268	50,958	69,156	73,234
Central	47,736	52,282	50,280	59,848	68,768	87,008	89,439
Eastern	49,018	69,146	71,897	77,151	79,148	113,585	112,530
Greater Accra	30,926	47,897	49,385	51,065	54,627	68,624	68,137
Northern	22,690	27,174	28,964	33,197	39,176	53,849	60,536
Upper East	12,157	12,236	12,639	13,443	15,208	22,909	25,215
Upper West	8,209	9,591	10,167	11,349	11,638	17,351	17,558
Volta	34,675	33,127	41,182	46,070	48,626	69,382	72,872
Western	26,345	32,408	34,359	38,841	43,934	56,123	59,275

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013

Table A47: National Enrolment rates of TVET (2005/2006-2011/2012)

Year	TVET		
	Private	Public	Total
2005/2006	13,028	18,438	31,466
2006/2007	20,957	47,935	68,892
2007/2008	23,452	43,908	67,360
2008/2009	22,066	37,514	59,588
2009/2010	24,547	39,608	64,155
2010/2011	29,307	42,541	71,848
2011/2012	15,609	46,694	62,303

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013



Table A48: Regional Enrolment in TVET (2005/2006-2011/2012)

Region	2005-2006		2006-2007		2007-2008		2008-2009		2009-2010		2010/2011		2011/2012	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Ashanti	2,027	3,901	6,208	38,949	6,040	3,968	5,883	5,222	5,827	4,835	5,519	3,290	4,760	2,225
Brong Ahafo	1,736	1,059	2,426	2,505	3,408	2,629	2,525	1,710	2,732	2,108	3,775	3,214	2,868	2,335
Central	557	897	6,548	5,631	6,190	5,140	4,215	2,329	3,215	3,241	4,068	3,775	4,311	1,791
Eastern	3,016	2,618	4,408	3,160	5,238	3,731	4,674	2,793	5,029	3,479	5,556	3,329	4,391	2,869
Greater Accra	1,251	154	5,726	3,020	5,052	3,244	17,297	3,895	5,116	4,315	5,315	4,360	4,571	923
Northern	446	655	1,772	2,521	1,700	2,956	1,738	3,533	1,931	2,634	2,815	3,727	9,631	2,033
Volta	1,753	1,339	3,398	2,435	2,571	2,531	3,192	1,923	2,821	2,290	4,003	3,038	2,840	1,289
Western	2,358	2,482	3,819	2,593	3,140	2,597	2,474	450	4,271	2,822	4,890	2,465	2,885	1,449
Upper East	1,904	1,784	2,117	3,221	2,031	2,193	2,968	2,447	2,253	2,545	2,711	2,313	3,120	1,792
Upper West	718	1,529	1,081	2,188	794	2,207	1,241	1,484	1,488	1,203	1,813	1,872	2,416	1,210

Source: EMIS, 2012, 2013



Table A49: Total Arrival and Departure of Selected Seventeen Nationalities for Children (From 0 -17 Years): 2006 - 2010

Nationality	TOTAL		2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	ARR	DEP	ARR	DEP	ARR	DEP	ARR	DEP	ARR	DEP	ARR	DEP
Grand Total	332273	346552	51530	54209	59832	64021	72287	75410	71732	74048	76892	78862
Ghanaians	108764	119109	17351	19966	20169	23110	22783	25236	24981	24673	23479	26123
Ivorians	13217	12429	2075	2179	2632	2501	3208	2925	3254	3053	2048	1772
Burkinabe	6886	6610	1047	1090	1230	1073	1482	1565	2068	1787	1059	1095
Nigerians	38609	37637	5758	4359	5840	5870	8392	8386	8045	8533	10574	10489
Liberians	7595	8967	1163	1634	1343	1618	1756	2283	1844	1961	1488	1470
South Africans	6001	17622	931	545	940	996	1376	1483	1143	13026	1612	1572
Togolese	8987	9279	1570	1063	1788	1782	2230	2245	2114	2427	1284	1762
French	4937	5059	568	500	884	933	1205	1262	1056	1157	1225	1207
Germans	7542	7853	1020	1116	1255	1387	1885	1872	1444	1621	1937	1857
Dutch	6773	7087	1073	1090	1365	1322	1595	1745	1136	1369	1604	1562
British	19101	21323	2112	3269	3157	3917	4350	4654	4260	4285	5221	5198
Americans	27951	29878	4188	4903	5070	5842	6347	6346	4823	5436	7524	7352
Canadians	5570	5872	1064	1072	937	1103	1191	1320	984	1014	1394	1362
Chinese	3767	3912	479	590	580	657	808	825	805	845	1096	995
Indians	6470	6904	1029	1107	1109	1275	1487	1527	1183	1349	1661	1645
Lebanese	3485	3685	535	534	737	842	869	887	630	731	714	691
Australians	2269	2533	512	556	305	363	502	604	419	508	530	503
Other	54351	40793	9054	8637	10491	9431	10822	10245	11542	274	12443	12207

Source: Ghana Immigration Service, 2011.



Table A50: Annual Distribution of Fatalities by Age Group

Year	0-5	6-15	16-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-55	Over 65	TOTAL
2005	120	184	276	375	273	138	101	82	1549
2006	124	201	260	363	266	146	108	69	1537
2007	109	214	369	579	379	191	120	81	2042
2008	136	218	310	528	329	177	138	102	1938
2009	130	250	388	609	383	222	141	109	2232
Total	619	1067	1603	2454	1630	874	608	443	9298
Percent	6.7	11.5	17.2	26.4	17.5	9.4	6.5	4.8	100

Source: National Road Safety Commission, 2011.



Table A51: Information on Support Provided to Children Affected by the WFCL

District	Region	Sector	Achievements
Ewutu-Efutu-Senya	Central	Fishing	200 Withdrawn
		Quarrying	240 Prevention
Ajumako Enyan Essiam	Central	C. Agric	
		Fishing	380 Withdrawn
		Quarrying	700 Prevention
		C. Agric	200 Family support
Cape Coast	Central	Fishing & CSEC	8 Community sensitisation
			300 Withdrawn
			500 Prevention
			150 Family support
			13 Community sensitization
Wassa West	Western	Mining	600 Prevention
			300 Withdrawn
			125 Family support
			10 Community Awareness
Jasikan	Volta		313 Withdrawn
Kpando	Volta	Fishing	300 Withdrawn
			700 Prevention
South Tongu	Volta		350 Withdrawn
North Tongu	Volta	Ritual Servitude	450 Prevention
		Cattle Boys	200 Family support
			10 Community sensitisation
Ketu	Volta	Sea Fishing	200 Withdrawn
			300 Prevention
			100 Family support
			10 Community sensitisation
Accra Metropolitan Assembly (AMA)	GAR	Kayayei	100 Withdrawn
			200 Prevention
			20 Family support
			300Community sensitisation
Ga West	GAR	Stone Quarrying	300 Withdrawn
			500 Prevented
			10Community sensitisation
		CSEC	300 Family support
			100 Withdrawn
			150 Prevented
			100 Family support
			5 Community sensitisation



Kwaebibirim	Eastern	C. Agric	550 Withdrawn 100 Prevented 300 Parents 20 CA
Twifu Hemang Lower Denkyira	Central		300 Withdrawn 600 Prevented 100 Parents
Obuasi	Ashanti	Mining	450 Withdrawn 700 Prevented 300 Parents 10 CA
Kumasi	Ashanti	Kayayei/ Hawking	400 Withdrawn 1000 Prevented 100 Parents 10 CA
Puru	Brong Ahafo	Fishing	300 Withdrawn 1000 Prevented 100 Parents 10 CA
Talensi Nabdam	Upper East	Mining	150 Withdrawn 450 Prevented 100 Parents 5 CA
Bolgatanga	Upper East	CDW Cattle Herding Kayayei	500 withdrawn 1000 prevented 320 parents 20 CA
Tolon Kumbugu	Northern		
Techiman	Brong Ahafo	Kayayei	200 Withdrawn 900 prevented 100 Parents 10 CA

Source: Child Labour Unit of the Labour Department, 2011.



Table A52: Cases involving Violence and Abuse Against Children (2010)

Offences	Victim		Suspect		Relationship			Cases Summary			No. Arrested		Treatment Of Cases					
	M	F	M	F	Clos e	Famil y	Other s	Tota l	Refuse d	Tru e	M	F	S/Cour t	Convicte d	A& D	A& T	Close d	U/Invest .
Defilement	5	982	982	15	204	70	694	986	5	981	500	17	337	48	6	272	4	640
Attempted Defilement	0	10	10	0	1	2	7	10	0	10	6	0	3	0	0	3	0	7
Sodomy	3	2	5	0	0	0	5	5	0	5	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	4
Incest	0	21	22	1	4	13	4	22	1	21	7	1	7	0	1	6	1	23
Child Trafficking	6	6	4	6	2	0	5	9	0	9	2	4	1	0	0	1	0	8
Child Stealing	3	7	5	5	2	5	5	10	3	7	10	4	1	1	0	0	0	9
Unlawful Removal of Child	11	235	243	89	151	181	9	341	8	333	147	57	3	0	0	3	80	250
Abduction	12	238	243	8	66	56	143	239	8	231	147	5	22	6	0	16	13	196
Exposing Child to Harm	50	73	50	70	38	80	6	123	5	118	43	43	2	0	0	2	31	85
Exploitative of Child Labour	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child Abuse	2	4	3	3	2	4	0	6	0	6	3	1	1	0	0	1	2	3
Non-Maintenance	40	447	467	14	1820	2392	584	4831	33	4798	3377	46	190	28	0	162	1744	2864
Abortion	3	9	4	3														
Compulsion of Marriage	7	82	74	16	50	15	18	89	0	89	38	6	5	0	1	4	4	80
Total	0	21	34	8	6	13	2	21	0	21	9	6	0	0	0	0	210	21
	60	616	634	36	2346	2831	1482	6692	63	6629	4291	190	573	83	8	471	2089	4190
	3	0	9	4														

Source: DOVVSU Secretariat, 2011.



Table A53: Child Related Human Rights Cases Received by CHRAJ (2008-2010)

Year	Number of human Rights cases	Number of child related human rights cases	Percentage of the human rights cases that are child related
2008	11,323	4,665	41
2009	11,176	4,472	40
2010	11,884	4,768	40
Total	34,383	13,905	40.4

Table A54: Number of Children's Homes and Orphanages by Region as at 2010

Region	Number
Ashanti	17
Brong Ahafo	17
Central	16
Eastern	12
Greater Accra	24
Northern	8
Upper East	9
Upper West	3
Volta	21
Western	7
National	134