

# **REPORT ON THE ADA EAST DISTRICT ASSEMBLY TOWN HALL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2021 AT THE CATHOLIC PARISH HALL, ADA -FOAH**

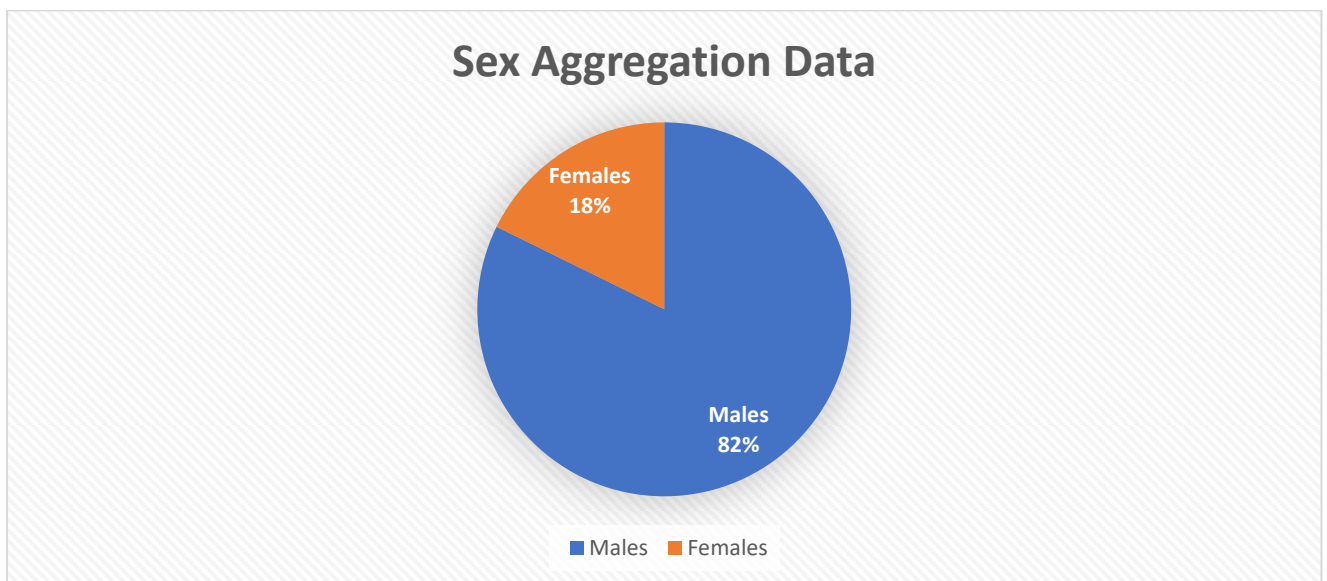
## **1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

The Local Governance Act, 2016 (Act 936) makes provision for participatory Governance at the local level. This ensures that residents and other stakeholders in the district participate effectively in the activities and sub-district structures of the District Assembly.

In line with this, the Media Foundation for West Africa (MWFA) in conjunction with Ada East District Assembly and Radio Ada held a town hall meeting dubbed “Enhancing Citizens Access to Information and Participation in Local Governance”

## **2.0 DIGNITARIES AND PARTICIPANTS**

The meeting was graced by the Chief of Ada-Foah, the Chief Fisherman for Ada Foah, the District Chief Executive (DCE), the District Co-ordinating Director (DCD), the Presiding Member (PM) of the Assembly, the representative of MFWA, Heads of Department/ Units of the Assembly, some Hon. Assembly/ Ada- Foah Area Council Members, representatives of the Ada Diaspora Association, and the Residents of Ada-Foah township.



## **3.0 OPENING**

Hon. Nene Amusu III led the gathering to observe the traditional greetings of the land.

## **4.0 DCD INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

The DCD in his opening remarks said, town hall meetings served as a tool for the Assembly to interact with its constituents. He highlighted on the fact that under the decentralisation system of governance, the Assembly has been clothed with powers, resources and personnel.

The DCD took the opportunity to educate participants on the funding sources the District Assembly; which includes District Assembly Common Fund Responsive Factor Grant (DACF-RFG), DACF, Internally Generated Fund (IGF), GETFUND, Local Climate Adaptative Living Facility (LoCAL), JICA, NGOs and other agencies.

Addressing the financial challenges confronting the Assembly especially in the area of IGF, he said the Assembly exists to prosecute its mandate and for that matter not in enmity with its constituents.

## 5.0 DCE KEYNOTE ADDRESS

## 6.0 OPEN FORUM SESSION

Residents and other Stakeholders participating in the meeting were given the platform to ask questions and make constructive suggestions in-relation to the activities and administration of the District Assembly.

The following areas under the above session were touched on:

### **ROADS**

- The District Director of NCCE expressed concern over the nuisance of sub-standard speed ramps in the district and asked of the way forward in addressing same.
- Assembly member for Pute electoral area asked that Ada-Foah to Pute road be urgently considered under the feeder road contract awarded to the district
- A resident of Azizanya raised concern over heaped stones on some portion of the Azizanya road which serve as a hazard to commuters.
- Assembly Member for Kewunor electoral area called on the Ada-Foah Chief and sub-Chiefs to play an advocacy role in getting Chalet Owners to fix the chalet roads

### DCE's RESPONSE

- Speed ramps on the roads was necessitated by records of motor/car accidents in the district.
- The execution of the awarded district's feeder roads contract would be done on priority-road basis thus constituents should cooperate in that regard.
- The District Engineer would inspect the affected portion of the Azizanya road and take steps to remove the heaped stones.
- The DCE appealed to the Traditional authorities to collaborate with the Assembly to bring necessary order to chalet owners/ operators.

### **SANITATION**

- A member of the GPRTU called on the Assembly to address the Non-functioning toilet situation at Tei-Mensa Panya electoral area. He described the situation as unbearable inconvenience for residents and visitors.
- A trader made mention of the stalled toilet project in the Ada-Foah market and appealed to the Assembly to find solution to the problem.

### DCE's RESPONSE

- Assembly would take the necessary steps to address the toilet situation at Tei Mensa Panya and the Ada-Foah market. She admonished residents to channel such issues through the appropriate sub-district structures of the Assembly.

## **CHIEFTAINCY DISPUTES**

- Foahwem Assembly member admonished the Assembly to tread cautiously in responding to Foahwem land disputes.

## **DCE's RESPONSE**

- The Paramountcy and traditional authorities are clothed with the powers to resolve chieftaincy and land disputes not the DCE, she said.

## **EDUCATION**

- A participant enquired of the procedures involved in participating in the District Scholarship programme.
- Assembly to facilitate the establishment and operationalize Libraries, ICT labs and Science Labs in the District.
- Management of Kajanya D/A Basic school wrote to the Assembly for assistance to complete a stalled school project and received not same.

## **DCE's RESPONSE**

- Assembly facilitates public announcement of the District Scholarship programme on Radio Ada. The desk officer could be contacted at the Assembly premise for further information on same.
- Library operationalisation has started in Ada-Foah, howbeit able individuals were urged to assist in the realisation of same district-wide.
- In relation to District Assembly assistance to schools, letters from school management should be channelled through the Education Directorate for the necessary actions to be taken on same.

## **PHYSICAL PROJECTS**

- What's the status of the Kasseh market project under the \$ 1m per constituency flagship policy enrolled by the Government?
- What's the status of the Children's ward project at the Ada East District Hospital?
- An Executive of the Ada Diaspora Association noted that the Association gave \$10,000.00 to the Assembly in support of the Faithkope emergency ward project and are in readiness to build a nurse's bungalow in response to request from leadership of the Hospital. Land documentation serves as a pending challenge to realising same.
- A participant commended the Assembly for the projects executed but asked that the project cost be inclusive in subsequent meetings to deepen accountability of duty bearers.

## **SEA DEFENCE PROJECT**

- What's the way forward on the Ada Sea Defence project?

## DCE's RESPONSE

- Physical projects awarded the District by CODA under the \$ 1m per constituency are as follows: construction of 20-seater WC toilet at Alata, construction of additional Adasco boys' dormitory, construction of a CHPS compound and a nurse's bungalow at Segu-Kaja and redevelopment of the Kasseh market, she said.  
The Assembly is at the implementation phase of the aforementioned projects. The Vice President would be meeting MMDCEs on same, she said.
- The children's ward project was funded by MP Common Fund and would be in the best position to furnish citizenry with information on it.
- Assembly would facilitate the land documentation process for the realisation of Faithkope Hospital nurse's bungalow project.
- Hon. Assembly Members are privy to the respective project cost and urged them to disseminate same to their electorates, however, subsequent meetings would readily make available same to the citizenry.
- On the Ada Sea Defence project, evaluation report indicates that the hydrological survey director did unsatisfactory work. The DCE said, Hon. Francis Asenso-Boakye, Minister for Works and Housing inspected the respective project site and recommended a lasting approach for the project.

## **PROPERTY RATES/ PERMITS**

- A participant sought clarification on varying property rates of some similar developments in Ada East District and Ada West District.

## DCE's RESPONSE

- Ada East District have three (3) residential classes with the river fronts being 1<sup>st</sup> Class residential area, the basis for varying building permit rates on similar building projects between the two districts.

## **AGRICULTURE**

- Assembly to assist in the dredging of choked water tributaries at Totimekope/ Totopey communities and the desilting of the Futuenya bridge to allow the flow of fresh water to Pute and its surrounding environs.
- Assembly to ensure the availability of subsidized Agro chemicals to farmers to boost year-round farming activities, especially around the coastal areas.

## DCE's RESPONSE

- Farmers in the District should assist the Assembly to collect tolls from buyers and transporters of farm products during harvesting season. The Assembly would take necessary steps to address the acute shortage of Agro chemicals and the dredging of choked water tributaries, she said.

## **JOB CREATION**

- Assembly to facilitate the establishment of factories in the district to provide jobs for the teeming youth.

### DCE's RESPONSE

- The Assembly facilitated the establishment of the Business Resource Centre (BRC) with the objective of supporting businesses in the District. Recent reports indicated the BRC initiated security firm and an NGO job opportunity for interested youth in the district. The DCE admonished the youth to take advantage of such laudable initiatives.

### 7.0 CLOSING REMARKS

Hon. Ebenezer Nartey, Ada- Foah Area council chairman on his side, sounded a clarion call to citizenry to pay their required building permits, property rates and tolls.

He noted that the Assembly should come up with a layout plan for the river fronts. The Council chairman was optimistic that the development of road infrastructure would attract more investors to the district, enhance the safety of commuters and improve the livelihood of the citizenry.

### 8.0 VOTE OF THANKS

The MC for the programme, thanked the Almighty God for a successful meeting and expressed profound gratitude to Media Foundation for West Africa for funding the meeting, Chiefs, Leadership of the Assembly, Heads of Department/ Unit of the Assembly, Radio Ada team, residents of Ada-Foah and other stakeholders for their time and constructive contributions towards the meeting. He wished the Gods blessings upon all.

### 8.1 CLOSING

The Town Hall Meeting ended successfully with a closing prayer offered by Elder Samuel Sewornoo.