



International
Growth Centre



IGC Ghana connects research to policy for sustainable growth in Ghana. By producing frontier research in the areas of state capabilities, firms and energy, IGC Ghana aims to promote evidence based policy-making in the country and generate ideas for Ghana's growth.

Dr. Nii Sowa

Country Director, IGC Ghana



The advent of IGC operations in Ghana in 2009 could not have come at a better time. Despite two decades of macroeconomic stabilisation in the 1980s and 1990s, the country had not achieved an appreciable level of sustained growth, and there were serious macroeconomic slippages. IGC's first task was to help the Ministry of Finance on ways to stabilise the faltering economy. The other task was to help the country fashion an Oil Revenue Management Bill, to regulate revenue from the newly discovered petroleum resource.

Since then, the IGC has worked with a number of government Ministries, Departments and Agencies in Ghana. The Bank of Ghana benefited from a direct support in the computation of the Composite Index for Economic activities. Recently, a private sector multinational company in the oil sector has found IGC research useful in deciding its policy on subcontracting possibilities in Ghana. The IGC network in Ghana has been broadened to include civil society and local non-government organisations.

HISTORY OF THE PROGRAMME

The IGC Ghana country programme was initiated in 2009 after extensive consultations with key stakeholders in government, academia, policy think-tanks and civil society. It is led by Dr. Nii Sowa (Country Director), Dr. Sam Mensah (Co-Country Director) and Professor Christopher Udry (Lead Academic). Since its inception, IGC Ghana has funded a number of high quality research projects in the areas of macroeconomic stability, agricultural productivity, private sector development, education and skills acquisition and natural resource management. It has achieved notable success through projects such as the Enterprise Map of Ghana, events that brought together top researchers and policymakers and continued engagement with policy stakeholders in the country.



Housed in the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research at the University of Ghana, Legon, IGC Ghana is in a unique position to engage with top researchers in Ghana and across the world to provide ideas for growth to the Ghanaian government.



IGC Ghana is currently engaged in a number of projects with leading academics from around the world.



Enterprise Map of Ghana

John Sutton (*LSE*)

and Bennet Kpentey

Launched by the Minister of Trade, Ms. Hanna Tetteh, in March 2012, the Enterprise Map of Ghana has continued to have great impact on policy discussions, with over 1,500 copies distributed so far in Ghana.

The book provides profiles for each major firm in Manufacturing, Agribusiness and Construction in the country as well as the leading firms in each sub-industry. This book has helped the Ministry of Trade and Industry to write sector reports that guide their manufacturing and industrial promotion policies. It has also been used by private actors such as Tullow Oil PLC to identify Ghanaian companies that they can work with to improve local content and promote local participation.

Ongoing Projects

Based on demand from policy stakeholders, IGC Ghana has recently commissioned projects that look at exchange rate management, fiscal management, the macroeconomic impact of the public sector wage bill and the drivers of inflation in Ghana.

Other ongoing projects look at the impact of Chinese involvement in small scale gold mining, the effect of e-waste recycling on recyclers' health in Agbogbloshie and the effect of innovative savings loan products on firm productivity.

EVENTS

Events

In June 2014, IGC Ghana, in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Ghana, hosted the annual IGC Africa Growth Forum in Accra. The two day event brought together senior policymakers from across Africa and top researchers from around the world to share ideas for economic growth in the continent. Those in attendance included the Governor of the Bank of Ghana and the Deputy Governor of the Bank of Uganda. The Africa Growth Forum 2014 was widely covered by national media and closed with a public lecture by Professor Sir Paul Collier.



CONTACT THE TEAM



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The International Growth Centre (IGC) aims to promote sustainable growth in developing countries by providing demand-led policy advice based on frontier research. The IGC directs a global network of world-leading researchers and in-country teams in Africa and South Asia and works closely with partner governments to generate high quality research and policy advice on key growth challenges. Based at LSE and in partnership with the University of Oxford, the IGC is funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

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