



PIAC

NEWSLETTER

July – December 2024

PUBLIC INTEREST AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER | ISSUE 6



PIAC launches 2023 Annual Report

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PIAC meets Speaker of Parliament – Pgs 10 & 11

Who we are

The Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) is an independent statutory body mandated to promote transparency and accountability in the management of petroleum revenues in Ghana. The Committee was established under Section 51 of the Petroleum Revenue Management Act (PRMA) 2011 (Act 815).

- **Vision**

Efficient, transparent, and accountable management and use of petroleum revenues and investments for sustainable economic and social development.

- **Mission**

To monitor, evaluate, independently assess government and institutional compliance with Act 815 as amended, and engage the public on the management and use of petroleum revenue, to safeguard public interest.

- **Mandate**

The Accountability Committee has three main objects as outlined in the PRMA;

1. To monitor and evaluate compliance with the Act by government and relevant institutions in the management

and use of petroleum revenues and investments;

2. To provide space and platform for the public to debate on whether spending prospects and management and use of revenues conform to development priorities as provided under section 21 (3);
3. To provide independent assessment on the management and use of petroleum revenues to assist parliament and the executive in the oversight and the performance of related functions.

Membership of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) is drawn from 13 nominating institutions, who serve for either a two-year (renewable) or three-year (non-renewable) tenure.



Ghana National Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Association of Ghana Industries



Ghana Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative



Trades Union Congress



Civil Society Organisations & Community-Based Organisations



Ghana Journalists Association



Ghana Bar Association



Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ghana



Ghana Academy of Arts & Sciences



Think Tanks



National House of Chiefs



Association of Queen Mothers



Christian Groups



Muslim Groups

See Page 5 for the current Members of PIAC.

PIAC launches 2023 Annual Report

By Jessica Acheampong
Senior Communications Officer, PIAC

As part of efforts to promote transparency and accountability, the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) has published its 2023 Annual Report on the management and use of petroleum revenues.

The publication of the report, which is in line with the with PIAC's first and third mandates, is to provide the public with information on how petroleum revenues have been managed and utilised from January to December 2023.

The report was presented by the Chair of PIAC, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf, and was assisted by a Past Chair of PIAC, Prof. Paul Kingsley Buah-Bassuah, at an event held at the Great Hall of the University of Ghana on Tuesday, 21st May 2024, to jointly launch the report.

The launch event also provided an opportunity to engage students of University of Ghana, and from the Department of Geography and Resource Development.

In a welcome address, the Chair of PIAC, noted that as an accountability institution, the Committee was committed to ensuring that citizens are well informed to demand transparency and accountability in the management and use of petroleum revenues, and for duty bearers to make informed decisions based on the Committee's findings and recommendations.

The Principal of the City Campus of the University of Ghana, Professor Joseph A. Yaro, in his welcome remarks commended the Committee for its role in ensuring the prudent management and use of the country's petroleum revenues. PIAC, he added, has continuously fulfilled its mandate of publishing its statutory reports each year to provide the public with information on how petroleum revenues have been managed and used.

The Head of the Department of Geography and Resource Development of the University of Ghana, Prof. Charlotte Wriggley-Asante, in her special remarks, stated that the Department considered it



Prof Charlotte Wriggley-Asante
—Head of Department of Geography
and Natural Resources, University of
Ghana, speaking at the event.

a privilege to collaborate with the Committee to launch its 2023 Annual Report. She said the event will also provide students with first-hand information on such an important subject governing natural resources (oil and gas) management in Ghana.

Report Highlights

The Chair of PIAC, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf presented the highlights of the 2023 PIAC Annual Report. She reviewed crude oil and gas production, allocations, distributions from the Petroleum Holding Fund (PHF), petroleum receipts, as well as the Committee's findings and

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Some participants at the launch event.
INSET; Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf presenting the report at the launch.

Cover Photo shows Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf, PIAC Chair and Professor Paul Kingsley Buah-Bassuah, a Past Chair of PIAC, launching the 2023 PIAC Annual Report."

PIAC and its relevance to petroleum revenue management

The Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC), established under the Petroleum Revenue Management Act (PRMA) 2011, Act 815, plays a key role in ensuring transparency and accountability in the management and use of petroleum revenues in Ghana.

The Committee is mandated to produce two (2) Statutory Reports; semi-annual and annual each year on the prudent management and use of petroleum revenues, to critically give an account of how petroleum revenues have been managed and utilised to ensure transparency and accountability.

Since its establishment, the Committee has produced 25

Reports. These Reports provide information on production, liftings, total revenues accruing and allocation by Government, utilisation of the Annual Budget Funding Amount (ABFA), and the management of the funds set aside in the Ghana Petroleum Funds (Ghana Stabilisation Fund and the Ghana Heritage Fund). The Report also examines other issues pertinent to the performance of various institutions charged with responsibilities in the PRMA, including the Accountability Committee. Based on its analysis, it makes findings and gives recommendations on the best use and management of petroleum revenues.

In its drive for transparency and accountability, its Statutory Reports serve as a key source of information. The Reports ensure that citizens are informed about how the country's resources are being used, and on which basis they can subsequently demand accountability from an informed position.

Again, PIAC's detailed reports provide policymakers with the necessary data and analysis to make informed decisions about the use and management of petroleum revenues, to ensure better governance and promote more effective policy frameworks.

It is without doubt that PIAC plays a significant role in monitoring and evaluating the use of petroleum revenues in the country. It is however, important for citizens to take keen interest to study these reports to ensure that petroleum revenues are managed better.

The proper management of petroleum revenues ensures that the wealth generated from natural resources contributes to long-term economic stability and growth. It can help in avoiding the resource curse, where countries rich in natural resources often experience less economic growth.

It is therefore time for citizens to be interested in these reports. A comprehensive report on the management and use of petroleum revenues like the reports produced by PIAC, is crucial for ensuring that these resources contribute positively to the country's economic, social, and environmental well-being.

Let us all put our hands on deck and be interested in the management and use of petroleum revenues to foster transparency, promote effective policy-making, and ensure sustainable development, to benefit current and future generations.

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Please send all feedback to secretariat@piacghana.org

Know PIAC Members

Membership of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) is drawn from 13 nominating institutions, who serve for either a two-year (renewable) or three-

year (non-renewable) tenure.

Current Members of the Committee as at the end of 2023 are presented in this edition.



Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfo-Schandorf (Chair)
Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences



Odeefuo Amoakwa Boadu VIII (Vice Chair)
National House of Chiefs



Mrs Clara Beerli Kasser-Tee
Independent Policy Research Think Thanks



Nana Yaa Ansua
Queen Mothers Association



Ms Freda Stephanie Frimpong
Trades Union Congress (TUC)



Ms Sena Dake
Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ghana



Ms Yorm Ama Abledu
Ghana Bar Association –GBA



Mr Richard Ellimah
Civil Society Organisations/
Community-based Organisations



Mr Edward Yaw Afriyie
Ass. of Ghana Industries and Ghana Chamber of Commerce and Industries



Dr Ibrahim Lartey
Muslim Groups



Mr Constatine K.M. Kudzedzi
Christian Groups



Nana Kwaku Dei (Mr Ransford Tetteh)
Ghana Journalists Association - GJA



Mr Christopher Opoku
Ghana Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative – GHEITI



The PIAC delegation with officials from the Ministry of Finance after the meeting.

PIAC confers with Ministry of Finance

Leadership of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) met with management of the Ministry of Finance to discuss petroleum revenue management issues that require the intervention of the Ministry.

The PIAC Team was led by the Chair, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf and had both Members and Secretariat staff during the visit on Thursday, 11th January 2024. The Team was received by the then Minister of Finance, Mr Ken Ofori-Attah, the Minister of State at the Ministry of Finance, Dr Mohammed Amin Adam, the Coordinating Director, Ms Stella Dede Williams and other officials of the Ministry.

Key issues discussed centered on the status of the review of the Petroleum Revenue Management Act

(PRMA), branding of projects that have received funding from the Annual Budget Funding Amount (ABFA), and the institutionalisation of quarterly engagement between PIAC and the

MoF. The meeting also provided an avenue to discuss matters related to the operations of PIAC with focus on its new leadership and the timely release of funds for its activities.



Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf (left), PIAC Chair, in a discussion with Mr Ken Ofori-Attah, then Finance Minister.



Dr Mohammed Amin Adam, the then Minister of State at the Ministry of Finance, with Ms Stella Dede Williams, the Coordinating Director of the MoF.



Some officials of the Finance Ministry at the meeting.

Continued from page 3

recommendations for the year under review.

Chairperson's remarks

In his closing remarks, Prof. Buah-Bassuah made some observations with regards to the use of the Ghana Heritage Fund (GHF), a fund set aside for the future generation. He said the interest on the GHF could be withdrawn in 2025, and thus PIAC needs to keenly monitor to avoid embezzlement of funds. He also touched on the depleting Ghana Stabilisation Fund (GSF) and the wrong cap that has been placed on it, as captured in the 2023 Annual Report. He added



Some participants at the launch event.

that the requisite action needed to be taken to reverse the low cap on the fund.

He also used the occasion to call on Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and energy advocacy institutions to support the work of

PIAC to ensure that there is prudent use of petroleum revenues in Ghana.

A copy of the report can be downloaded via this link:

https://www.piacghana.org/ova_doc/piac-2023-annual-report/

PIAC familiarises itself with operations of NDPC

The PIAC team led by its Chair, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf, held an engagement with the management of the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) on Wednesday, 31st January 2024. The PIAC Team was received by the Director General of the NDPC, Dr. Kodjo E. Mensah-Abrampa and other Officials of the Commission.

In an address, the Chair of PIAC, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf said the meeting with the NDPC was very relevant as both institutions get to understand each other's mandate, and to explore areas of collaboration for advocacy on the need for and the adoption of a long-term national development plan approved by Parliament.

Touching on the relevance of a Long-Term National Development Plan in petroleum revenue management, she said the Act provided that where a long-term national development plan approved by Parliament is not in place, the spending of the ABFA should give priority to a maximum of four (4) Priority Areas out of 12 listed in the Act.

However, since the implementation of the PRMA 12 years ago, Government has spent the ABFA using the medium-term framework of Priority Areas due to the absence of a long-term national development plan approved by Parliament.

Currently, the local governance system through the MMDAs align

their medium-term development plans with the long-term national development framework and gear activities towards its implementation. However, the central governance structures have not paid much attention to the full implementation of these plans.

She highlighted some implementation challenges, such as ambiguity in Priority Areas Selection because it gives room for the spending of the ABFA in areas outside

the stated 12.

Also, the challenges associated with the ABFA utilisation stem from the fact that there is no long-term National Development Plan approved by Parliament in place.

Concluding her presentation, she said there is the need to develop and approve a Long-Term National Development Plan approved by Parliament to lay out

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Dr Kodjo E. Mensah-Abrampa speaking at the meeting, while the PIAC Chair looks on.



Members and staff of PIAC with NDPC Officials after the meeting.

Continued from page 8

the developmental roadmap for the future of Ghana, for which petroleum revenues could play a direct role in its full implementation.

The Director-General of the NDPC, Dr Kodjo E. Mensah-Abrampa said the NDPC had a clear mandate as enshrined in the Act that established it.

He said a meeting with PIAC was long overdue as it was important to hold yearly engagements to harmonize the functions of both institutions to spearhead development.

He also highlighted how prioritisation was done for Public Investment Programmes to ensure that critical development

areas get the required funds for implementation. PIAC, he said, should be able to influence the prioritisation process.

As at the time of going to Press, the DG of the NDPC had passed on to glory.



Members of the New Audit Committee with the Chair of PIAC (seated 2nd right) after the inauguration.



The DG of the IAA, Dr Eric Oduro Osae swearing in the new Members of the Audit Committee.

PIAC inaugurates Audit Committee

The new Audit Committee (AC) of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) was inaugurated by the Director-General of the Internal Audit Agency (IAA) at a ceremony on 4th April, 2024 at the PIAC Secretariat in Accra.

The new Audit Committee, which has Dr. Kwame Antwi Boasiako as its Chair, also has Mr. Alhassan Fuseini, Barima Agyenim Boateng, Ms Sena Dake and Mr Christopher Opoku Nyarko as Members.

In an address, the Chair of PIAC, Prof. Emerita Elizabeth Ardayfio – Schandorf welcomed participants to the meeting. She provided an

overview of PIAC, its mandate and the composition of the 13-member Committee.

She urged the members of the new Audit Committee to contribute to the effectiveness of public accountability and the appropriate use of public resources. This will enable them fulfill the responsibilities imposed on them under Section 86 (1) of the PFM Act, the Public Financial Management Regulations, 2019 (L.I. 2378), the Public Procurement Act, 2003 (Act 663) as amended, the Guidelines for Effective Functioning of Audit Committees and other applicable financial laws.

The Director-General of the IAA,

Dr Eric Oduro Osae congratulated members of the newly inaugurated committee. He said the Committee has been inaugurated to fulfill the AC's responsibilities imposed on them under the PFM Act, the Public Financial Management Regulations, 2019 (L.I. 2378), the Public Procurement Act, 2003 (Act 663) as amended, the Guidelines for Effective Functioning of Audit Committees and other applicable financial laws.

In a response on behalf of the new Members, Dr. Kwame Antwi Boasiako expressed gratitude to their nominating institutions for the opportunity to serve on the Audit Committee of PIAC and to the AC for the confidence reposed in him to Chair the AC. He indicated the readiness of the new Members to work together to help promote the work of PIAC in ensuring that financial control measures remain strong.

PIAC meets Speaker of Parliament

The new PIAC team led by its Chair, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf met with the Speaker of Parliament, Honourable Alban Sumana Kingsford Bagbin as part of a familiarisation visit and to explore collaborative options on the implementation of the Committee's recommendations, on Monday, 19th February, 2024.

Stating the purpose of the visit of the team, the Chair of PIAC, Emerita Professor Ardayfio-Schandorf presented an overview of PIAC and its 3-fold mandate and the role that Parliament plays in the fulfillment of the Committee's mandate.

She said as part of its reporting mandate, the Committee publishes two statutory reports, each year – Semi-annual and Annual – to inform the public on how petroleum

revenues have been managed and utilised in a particular year. PIAC, since its establishment has produced 24 Statutory Reports – 12 Annual and 12 Semi-annual.

Despite the production of these yearly reports, the Committee she explained had no power to enforce the implementation of its recommendations, and thus continued to rely on Parliament to assist with the enforcement after PIAC publishes its reports and makes recommendations. She said so far 55 percent of all PIAC's recommendations have been implemented since 2011.

Emerita Chair mentioned that the Committee realises the role of Parliament and thus decided to engage the leadership to make known what PIAC has been doing and to explore how the two institutions

can collaborate to help PIAC fulfil its mandate.

The Speaker of Parliament, Honourable Alban Sumana Kingsford Bagbin commended PIAC for its work in ensuring the transparent and accountable management and use of the country's petroleum revenues. He said he was very conversant with the processes leading to the passage of the PRMA and was therefore appreciative of the work of PIAC.

Parliament, he said, has over the years not allocated enough time to discuss PIAC's Reports and a lot of violations have gone unpunished. He however gave an assurance that he would spearhead a meeting with the leadership of Parliament to discuss some of the issues raised by PIAC.



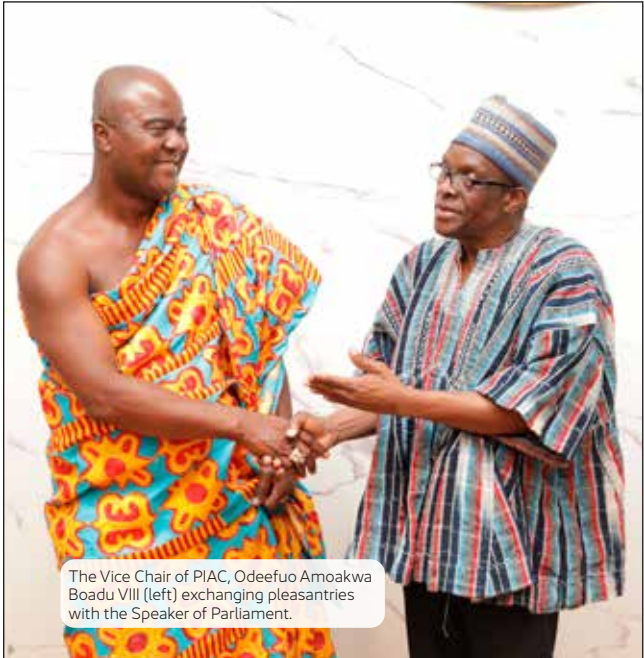
The PIAC Team with the Speaker of Parliament after the meeting.



Some PIAC Members and Staff at the meeting.



Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf presenting copies of the PIAC Newsletter to the Speaker.



The Vice Chair of PIAC, Odeefuo Amoakwa Boadu VIII (left) exchanging pleasantries with the Speaker of Parliament.

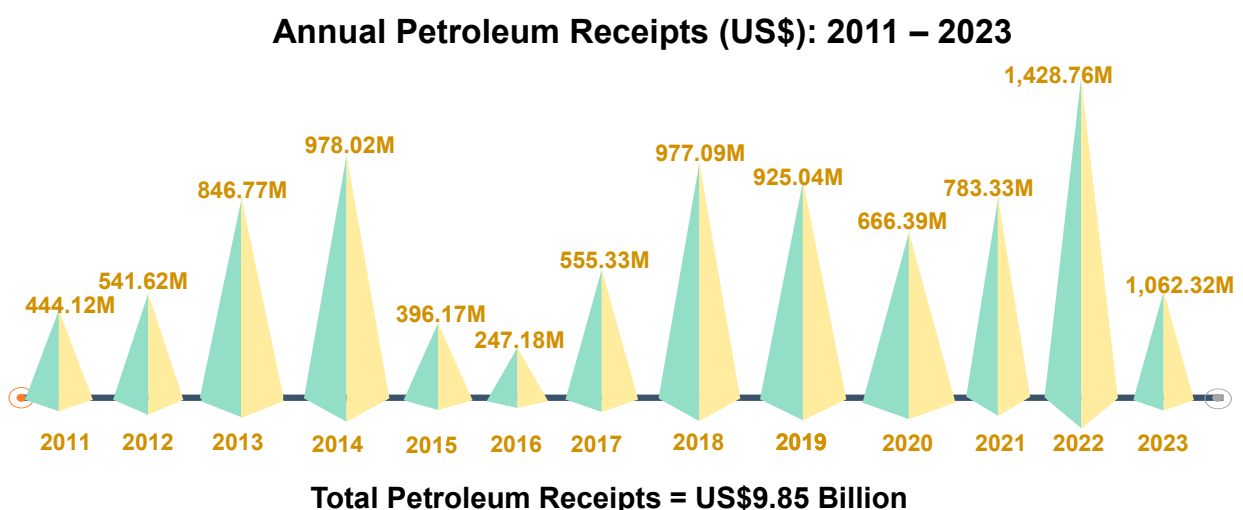
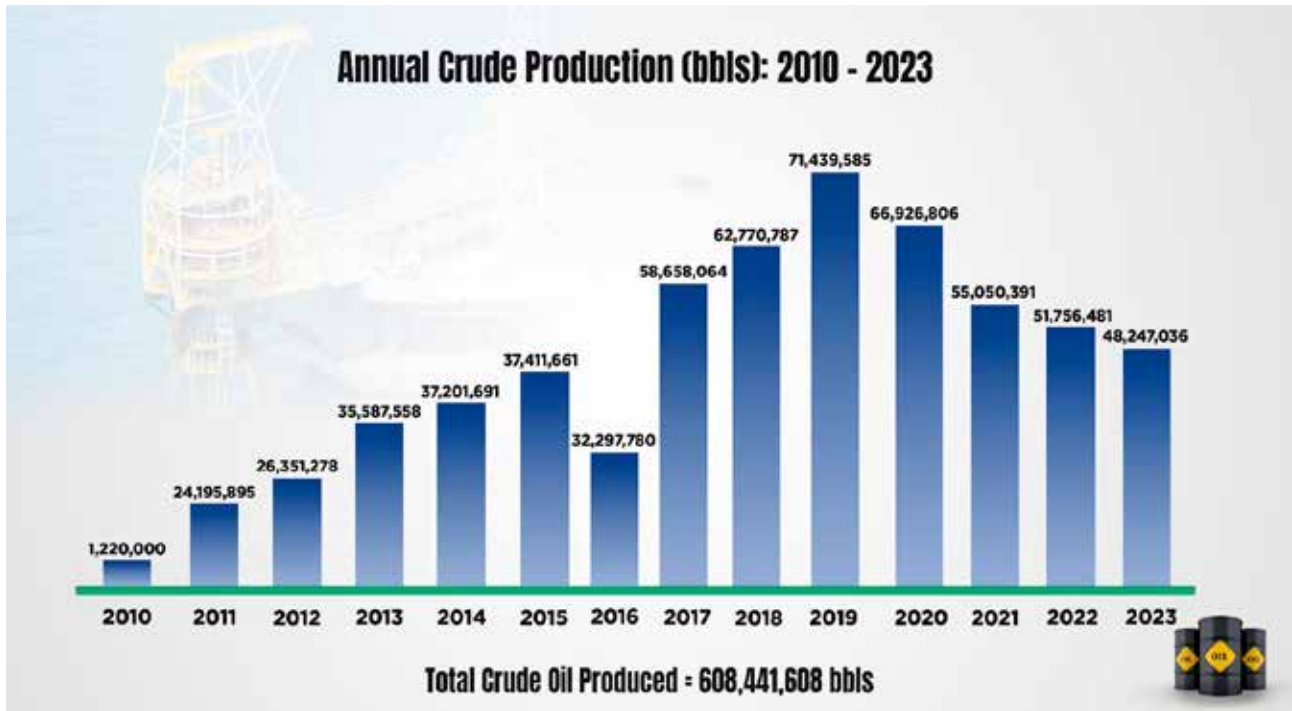


The Vice Chair of PIAC, Odeefuo Amoakwa Boadu VIII, making a point at the meeting.

Industry Statistics

In December 2010, Commercial oil production in Ghana started on the Jubilee Field. Two other Fields – Tweneboa Nnyera and Ntomme (TEN) and the Sankofa Gye Nyame came on stream later to serve as the three main oil producing Fields in Ghana.

In this edition, we provide statistics on oil production and revenue accrued from 2010 till the end of 2023.



Highlights of the 2023 PIAC Annual Report

In line with its mandate, PIAC publishes two statutory reports each year – a Semi Annual and Annual Report on the management and use of petroleum revenues.

The 2023 Annual report is the 13th Annual, and 25th in all, published by the Committee. Highlights of the report are captured below:

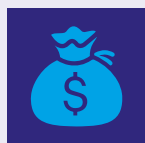
PRODUCTION STATISTICS



Oil Production
48,247,036.61 barrels



Gas Production
255,171.97 mmscf



Total Revenue
US\$1.06 billion

PETROLEUM REVENUE STREAMS & TOTAL PETROLEUM REVENUE H1 2023 -

US\$540,456,124.27

Royalties – **US\$219,608,784.84**

Corporate Income Tax (CIT) – **US\$365,197,536.35**

Carried and Participation Interest (CAPI)
– **US\$470,673,746.05**

Surface Rentals – **US\$771,200.48**

PHF Income – **US\$6,072,151.40**

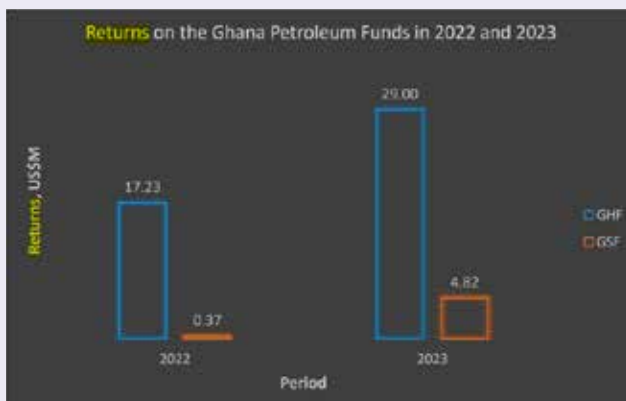
DISTRIBUTION FROM PETROLEUM HOLDING FUND (PHF)

	US\$(m)	%
ABFA	485.97	45.76
GNPC	245.59	23.12
GHF	99.16	9.34
GSF	231.36	21.78
TOTAL	1,062.08	100

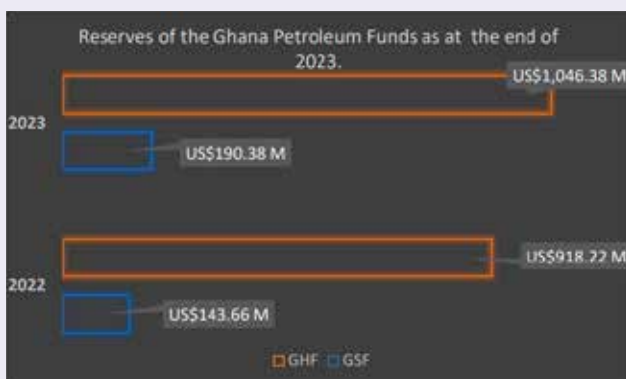
UTILISATION OF ABFA BY PRIORITY AREAS

Priority Area	Amount (GH¢)	Percentage
Agriculture including Fisheries	431,585,128.36	8.44%
Physical Infrastructure and Service Delivery in Education and Health	894,262,103.62	17.49%
Road, Rail and Other Critical Infrastructure Development	3,782,504,656.65	73.96%
Industrialisation	5,816,350.68	0.11%
Sub-total	5,114,168,239.31	100.00%
PIAC	4,637,845	
Total	5,118,806,084.31	

RESERVES OF THE GHANA PETROLEUM FUNDS AS AT 2023



BALANCES OF THE GHANA PETROLEUM FUNDS AS AT 2023



FINDINGS

1. Crude oil production declined for the fourth consecutive year in 2023. Production dropped from a high of 71.44 million barrels in 2019 to 48.25 million barrels in 2023 representing an annual average decline of 9.2 percent.
2. The total proceeds from JOHL liftings received in 2023, amounting to US\$70,456,718.93, were not paid into the PHF for the second consecutive year. This brings the cumulative proceeds of unpaid revenue into the PHF by JOHL to US\$343,108,927.88 as at end of 2023.
3. An ABFA amount of US\$108,750,000 was disbursed to the GILF-SPV Viability Fund for the Accra-Tema Motorway Extensions Project in 2023, instead of GILF. The Committee finds the transfer of funds to be contrary to Section 21(4)(b) of the PRMA.
4. An amount of US\$24,298,598.18 (GH¢270,907,662.28), representing 5 percent of the 2023 ABFA, was disbursed to the DACF in compliance with the decision of the Supreme Court of Ghana in the case of Kpodo and Another vrs Attorney General in 2019, to transfer at least 5 percent of the ABFA to the Fund.

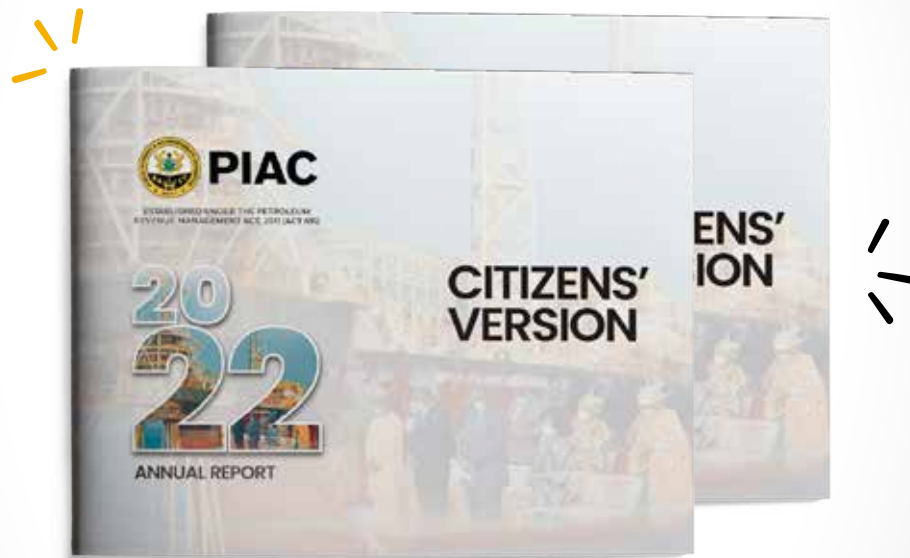
5. The Annual Budget Funding Amount disbursed to support the Government's Agenda 111 project was GH¢758,975,487.29 in 2023. The ABFA component (GH¢1,708,287,215.59) of the total expenditure (GH¢2,618,287,215.59) on the Project since its inception is 65.24 percent.
6. Surface Rental owed by IOCs remain high at US\$2,738,365.29 as at the end of 2023.
7. Allocation and disbursements of annual ABFA to the Industrialisation Priority Area has reduced from 1.15% in 2020 to 0.11% in 2023, thereby undermining the essence of prioritisation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Government and the relevant regulatory bodies should take the appropriate steps to reverse production decline in existing fields and ensure investments in unexploited fields.
2. PIAC reiterates its position that proceeds from liftings of JOHL and other subsidiaries of GNPC constitute petroleum revenues within the meaning of Section 6(e) of the Petroleum Revenue Management Act, 2011 (Act 815) and Section 2 of the Petroleum Revenue Management (Amendment), 2015 (Act 893), and therefore must be paid into the PHF.
3. The Committee recommends that the ABFA of US\$108,750,000 that was transferred into the Viability Gap Facility Account should be transferred to GILF. The Committee further recommends that future disbursements towards the Accra-Tema Motorway Extensions Project be made to GILF in accordance with the provisions of the PRMA.
4. The Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA) needs to intensify its efforts to recover the Surface Rental arrears with the usual default penalties applied.
5. PIAC restates its recommendation that the selection of the ABFA Priority Areas must be guided by a long-term national development plan approved by Parliament in conformity with the Act.
6. The Committee urges the Ministry of Finance to demonstrate the essence of prioritisation by the amount of ABFA disbursed to the Industrialisation Priority Area.



PIAC



Your simplified resource on the management and use of petroleum revenues.

Informative

Simplified



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PIAC...Safeguarding Ghana's Petroleum Revenues

PIAC holds public engagements in Goaso and Sekondi-Takoradi

In line with the Committee's second mandate of providing space and platform for the public to debate on the management and use of petroleum revenues, it organised two fora in the first half of the year in the Western and Ahafo Regions.

The forum in Goaso, the capital of the Ahafo Region was held at the Diocesan Pastoral and Social Centre and brought together about 70 participants from different groups of the public in the region.

In Sunyani, the Chairman of the Occasion, who is the Paramount Chief of the Ntotroso Traditional Council, Barima Twereku Ampem III, commended PIAC for the work done to ensure accountability in the management of the country's petroleum revenues. He said PIAC was in the region to inspect projects that have received funding from petroleum revenues and to engage

representative of the Ahafo Regional Minister, Mr Ishmael Asare provided an overview of PIAC and the mandate of the Committee with regards to the management and use of petroleum revenues. He said the Committee publishes two (2) statutory reports each year and stated that there was the need for citizens to arm themselves with the details of the report and demand accountability from duty bearers in a civilized manner.

In Sekondi-Takoradi, the forum was held at the Trust Cafeteria with participants drawn from different categories of the public. The forum was chaired by the Paramount Chief of the Mpohor Traditional Area, Osabarima Kwaw Entsie II, who gave his acceptance speech and requested that participants keenly follow the proceedings.

In a keynote address by the

the PIAC 2023 Annual report were presented, after which participants had the opportunity to ask questions and also give feedback to PIAC. Some of which are summarised below:

- What is the role of PIAC when it comes to dealing with infractions related to the management of petroleum revenues.
- Is PIAC involved in the collection and accounting of petroleum revenues?
- Is it possible to renegotiate the share of Ghana's stake in the petroleum contracts?
- What is the status of the Ghana Heritage Fund (GHF)?
- Whose responsibility is it to ensure that the Ghana Stabilisation Fund (GSF) is capped correctly?
- What can PIAC do with regards to the non-implementation of its recommendations?

At the forum in Takoradi, a former Member of PIAC, Osabarima Kwaw Entsie, was appreciated for his work towards the Committee. The Chair of PIAC, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf presented a plaque to him at the forum in Takoradi.





Participants in the public forum in Goaso.



The Western Regional Minister, Mr Kwabena Okyere Darko-Mensah speaking at the forum in Takoradi.



The Paramount Chief of the Ntotroso Traditional Area, Barima Twereku Ampem III speaking at the forum in Goaso.



Mr Ishmael Asare of the Ahafo Regional Coordinating Council making some remarks at the forum in Goaso.



The Chair of PIAC, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf presenting a plaque to Osabarima Kwaw Entsie, a former Member of PIAC and the Paramount Chief of the Mphor Traditional Area at the forum in Takoradi.

Media Engagements

The media, represented by the Ghana Journalists Association (GJA), is one of the key constituents of PIAC as provided for in the Petroleum Revenue Management Act, 2011 (Act 815).

The Committee has since its inception, developed, and maintained a working relationship with distinct categories of the media across the country. Here are some highlights of engagements with the media for the first half of the year.

- **Pre-launch media briefing on 2023 Annual Report**

This was held on Monday, 20th May 2024 at the PIAC Secretariat, ahead of the launch of the 2023 PIAC Annual Report on the management and use of petroleum revenues. The aim was to provide the media with first-hand information on the report and also present key issues for their reportage, to help streamline reportage and minimize inaccuracies in reporting. The briefing was done by the Chair, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayafo- Schandorf.



The Chair of PIAC, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayafo- Schandorf speaking at the pre-launch media briefing.



Some media participants in the briefing.



Media participants in the pre-launch media briefing.

- **Media engagements on 2023 Annual Report – Editors’ Forum**

The engagement with Editors, Morning Show Hosts and Producers brought together participants from different categories of media houses. During the session, participants were taken through the 2023 PIAC Annual Report, PIAC’s Second Issue Paper on the role of the GNPC, its prospects and challenges and a session on energy transition. They also had the chance to explore PIAC’s data dashboard, as well as engage on how they can use their editorial decisions to promote transparency and accountability in the management and use of petroleum revenues.



PIAC Members and staff with the media at the engagement in Koforidua.



The Chair of the Public Affairs and Communications sub-Committee, Nana Kwaku Dei speaking at the media engagement.

Media engagements on 2023 Annual Report – Journalists Engagement

As part of activities after the launch of the 2023 PIAC Annual Report, the Committee engaged Members of the Institute of Financial and Economic Journalists (IFEJ), select Members of the Parliamentary Press Corps, and the PIAC Media in a post report analysis session.



Some PIAC Members and media participants in a session in Koforidua.



Mr Mark O.A. Agyeman, Technical Manager of PIAC explaining issues to the media participants during the engagement.

• Zonal Media Engagements in Takoradi and Sunyani

To help build the capacity of regional journalists during PIAC's planned outreach programmes, a half-day session with the regional and community-based journalists was held during the regional engagements after the launch of the report in the Western and Bono Regions.

In the Bono Region, the zonal engagement was held at the Sheila's Executive Lodge in Sunyani, and brought together 21 participants from the Bono, Bono East and

Ahafo Regions to engage on the PIAC Report. In the Western Region, participants were drawn from the Central and Western Regions to engage with PIAC on the 2023 Annual Report.

Participants were taken through PIAC's 2023 Annual Report on the management and use of petroleum revenues as well as engaged on how the Committee can collaborate with them going forward.



Members and staff of PIAC with the media participants after the engagement in Sunyani.



The PIAC with the media participants after the engagement in Takoradi.



PIAC

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PIAC...Safeguarding Ghana's Petroleum Revenues

PIAC unveils Citizens' Version

In response to feedback on the need to make PIAC Reports more accessible and reader-friendly, the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) in February 2024 unveiled the Citizens' Version of its Statutory Reports.

The Citizens' Version uses infographic, illustrations and less technical text to get citizens to understand information provided on petroleum production, revenue accrued, distribution and utilisation.

The maiden edition focused on the 2022 Annual Report on the management and use of

petroleum revenues.

The Chair of PIAC, Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfi-Schandorf said the decision of the Committee to develop a simplified version of the 2022 PIAC Annual Report, and all its subsequent annual reports, was to equip the public with information on petroleum revenue management.

The simplified version, she noted, will seek to empower citizens to actively participate in the governance of natural resources, thereby contributing to a more informed and accountable society.



Emerita Professor Elizabeth Ardayfi-Schandorf, Chair of PIAC welcoming participants to the event.



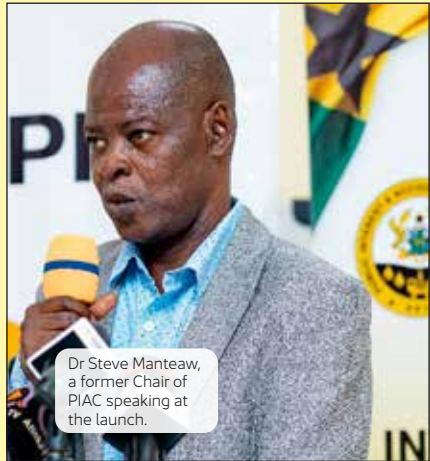
Some Past and Present Members of PIAC with other dignitaries after the launch.



Ms. Kathleen Addy, Chairperson of the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) speaking at the event.



Nana Dr Susubiribi Krobea Asante delivering his remarks at the launch.



Dr Steve Manteaw, a former Chair of PIAC speaking at the launch.



Some guests at the launch event.



Nana Dr Susubiribi Krobea Asante (3rd right) being assisted by other dignitaries to launch the Citizens' Version.

PIAC engages students of the Sunyani Technical University

The Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) held separate engagements with students and faculty of the Sunyani and Takoradi Technical Universities, as part of its planned regional engagements in the Bono and Western regions. Both engagements were held on Friday, 7th June 2024.

Speaking at the engagement in Sunyani, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Sunyani Technical University, Prof Justice Solomon Korantwi-Barimah said the country was blessed with natural resources, including oil and gas. He said the engagement was relevant as it will educate the students



Prof Justice Solomon Korantwi-Barimah —Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Sunyani Technical University speaking at the engagement.

on petroleum revenue management in Ghana. He urged the students to be attentive and take part in the session by asking relevant questions.

In a presentation, the Technical Manager of PIAC, Mr Mark O.A. Agyeman reiterated the mandate of PIAC and how the Committee has worked to fulfill it over the years. His presentation also provided an analysis of production and sale of oil and gas production, sources of petroleum revenue, and its distribution for 2023. Key findings and recommendations in PIAC's 2023 Annual Report were also presented during the engagement.



A section of students at the engagement.



Some PIAC Members at the engagement in Sunyani.



A section of students at the engagement.



A section of students at the engagement.

PIAC engages students of the Takoradi Technical University

The PIAC Team, as part of its activities in the Western Region held a tertiary engagement with the Takoradi Technical University. The engagement was held at the Nicholas Aidoo-Taylor Auditorium on campus. Over 130 students and faculty staff of the University were in attendance.

The Vice Chancellor of the University, Rev. Prof. John Frank Eshun, in his opening address commended PIAC for its efforts in ensuring the prudent management

of petroleum revenues, and urged students to take keen interest in the session by PIAC.

Following the remarks, a presentation was made by the PIAC Chair, Emerita Prof. Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf, on highlights of the Committee's 2023 Annual Report on the management and use of Ghana's petroleum revenues. Her presentation took participants through a brief history of PIAC, and then proceeded to provide an overview of how the country has

fared in the management of revenue from oil and gas production.

This was followed by an open forum session where students asked questions and commented on management of Ghana's petroleum revenues.

The Chairperson of the Committee expressed gratitude to the leadership of the University for the opportunity, and urged the students to continue to engage with PIAC via its various contact channels.



The PIAC Chair, Emerita Prof. Elizabeth Ardayfio-Schandorf speaking at the engagement.



A section of students at the engagement.



The PIAC Chair presenting a copy of the PIAC Report to Rev. Prof. John Frank Eshun, the Vice Chancellor of the Takoradi Technical University.

Project Inspections

The Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) carries out physical monitoring and verification of ABFA-funded projects across Ghana, in accordance with its 3rd mandate. The exercise is carried out to respond to citizens' demand for PIAC to assure the existence of reported ABFA-funded projects, to help the Committee obtain first-hand information on the quality and impact of projects funded with petroleum revenues, and to help conduct an informed assessment of how well the oil revenues are being applied.

Highlights of projects visited during the first half of the year are captured below:

- **Modernisation of Location Workshops Complex, Drainage System for Location Workshops Complex and the Training Institute Sekondi-Takoradi (Western Region)**

ABFA Disbursement	Year	Status of Work
GH¢45,675,671.46	2020 - 2022	<p>The contract comprises three infrastructural projects, namely, workshop complexes, a drain and the construction of the UMaT School of Railway. For the workshops, The scope included the rehabilitation of five (5) existing sheds, the construction of two (2) new sheds and the construction of a drain.</p> <p>The UMaT School of Railway had received a facelift, with the construction of lecture halls, offices, and other infrastructure. The Committee was satisfied with the overall quality of the projects.</p>



The drainage system that was constructed as part of the project.



The rehabilitated sheds at the Location Workshop.



The PIAC Team receiving a briefing during the inspection.



The inside of the rehabilitated location workshop

- Construction and Equipping of Treatment and Holding Centre at Takoradi in the Western Region for the Ministry of Health (Western Region)**

ABFA Disbursement	Year	Status of Work
GH¢1,599,603.30	2022	The project is a Treatment and Holding Centre, constructed for the purpose of supporting infectious disease outbreak responses. The project, which commenced in 2021, is currently 60% complete. The project had initially stalled due to late payments to the Contractor. At the time of the Committee's visit, the Contractor had returned to site, with the progress of work moving steadily.



Asphaltic Overlay of Anaji Critical Collectors, Race Course and Dupaul Area Roads, Takoradi (Western Region)

ABFA Disbursement	Year	Status of Work
GH¢14,746,787.64	2021 – 2022	The Team inspected the asphalted roads within Takoradi. The roads linked the Anaji, Race Course and Dupaul communities. As at the time of PIAC's visit on, sections of the Dupaul stretch had developed potholes and cracks. The team was informed, at the time of inspection, that the roads were still under construction, and that defects would be remedied by the Contractor before the project is handed over.



• **Kojokrom – Tarkwa Railway Line (Western Region)**

ABFA Disbursement	Year	Status of Work
GH¢154,494,434.83	2013 – 2021	<p>Since the Committee’s last visit to the project in 2019, the narrow gauge of the existing tracks have been discontinued, with the standard gauge lines now being constructed.</p> <p>The team inspected the Kojokrom – Manso section of the Kojokrom – Tarkwa Railway Line, which is a standard gauge line. As part of the inspection, the team also stopped by the Eshiem and Manso Stations, constructed along the rail lines.</p> <p>Overall, the team was satisfied with the project’s progress of work.</p>



Portions of the Western Railway Line.



The PIAC Team receiving a briefing on the project.

• **Construction of Durbar Grounds at New Takoradi in the Takoradi Constituency (Western Region)**

ABFA Disbursement	Year	Status of Work
GH¢184,013.41	2021	<p>The project comprises an area laid with concrete and pavement blocks to be used as durbar grounds for the New Takoradi community.</p> <p>At the time of the Committee’s visit, the project was in a deplorable state, with depressions in the concrete as well as exposed pavement blocks. Also, squatters had encroached sections of the durbar grounds, taking about half of the project’s designated area. According to the Assembly Member of the area, the project was completed in 2019.</p>



Parts of the durbar ground completed in 2019 in a deplorable state during the visit



The PIAC Team being briefed on the durbar ground project.

• **Erection and Completion of 1 No. 3-Storey RCC Administration at Goaso (Ahafo Region)**

ABFA Disbursement	Year	Status of Work
GH¢7,549,415.74	2020 - 2022	<p>The project comprises of a 3-storey block for use by the Ahafo Regional Coordinating Council (RCC). The team was informed that the project was about 80 percent complete as at the time of the visit.</p> <p>The project had delayed largely due to payment challenges. The team was informed that once funds are made available, the project will be completed within three months.</p> <p>The PIAC team observed that although work was ongoing, there were some defects with regards to the integrity of the glass frames for the windows and the scraping of the walls. The Consultant has prescribed a mechanism to deal with the challenges posed by the waterlog nature of the area resulting in the scraping of the walls.</p> <p>The defects would however be fixed as work progresses. Outstanding works include external works like painting and tiling.</p>



- **Construction of Regional Police Command at Goaso (Ahafo Region)**

ABFA Disbursement	Year	Status of Work
GH¢1,107,270.90	2022	<p>This project was about 30 percent complete as at the time of the visit, although there were workers on site. The works that had been done include the foundation and the erection of beams up until the first floor.</p> <p>The team was informed that the rains had disrupted the process.</p> <p>The team expressed their displeasure over the state of the construction, as the residential units to house the workers of the regional police command was about 80 per cent complete.</p>



- **Construction of 12 Units 2 Bedroom Block of flats for staff of Regional Police Commands in Goaso (Ahafo Region).**

ABFA Disbursement	Year	Status of Work
GH¢1,534,827.95	2022	<p>This project was ongoing as at the time of the visit of the PIAC Team. All the units have been constructed with outstanding works like tiling and painting yet to start.</p> <p>The team was informed that the project has suffered payment delays, but this has improved in recent times.</p> <p>The project was 80 per cent and all workers were on site as at the time of the visit. The work was at the finishing stage with outstanding works comprising of painting, tiling and fixing of electricals. Two septic tanks would also be installed as part of the project.</p> <p>The major challenge, however, was getting workers from the Region to work on the site. The remedy was to bring workers from Accra to get the project ongoing.</p>



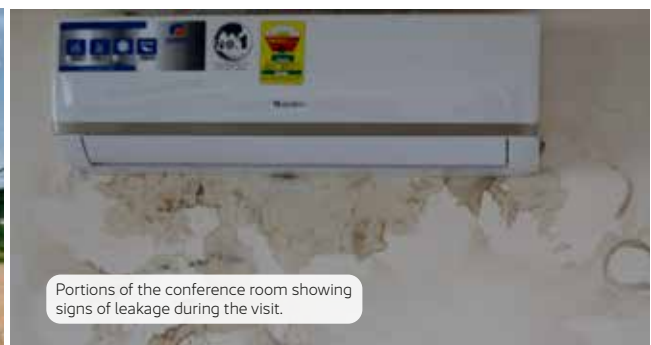
• **Erection and Completion of 3 No. Senior Staff Bungalow for RCC at Goaso (Ahafo Region).**

ABFA Disbursement	Year	Status of Work
GH¢2,074,184.35	2020 & 2022	The staff bungalows had been constructed and was in use as at the time of the visit. The team did not have the opportunity to access the buildings because they were occupied by the family of the RCC staff.



• **Erection and Completion of 1 No. 2-Storey Administration Block for the Department of Agriculture at Goaso (Ahafo Region).**

ABFA Disbursement	Year	Status of Work
GH¢1,291,127.33	2020	<p>The building was completed and was in use by the Department of Agriculture. Although a new building, the PIAC Team identified some defects which were corroborated by the Director General of the Department.</p> <p>The identified defects include leakage in the conference room, lack of power supply to some parts of the building and the intrusion by stray animals like sheep and goats, because the office is not fenced.</p>



- **Erection and Completion of 2 No. 3 Bedroom Bungalow for Regional Police Commander and Deputy at Goaso (Ahafo Region)**

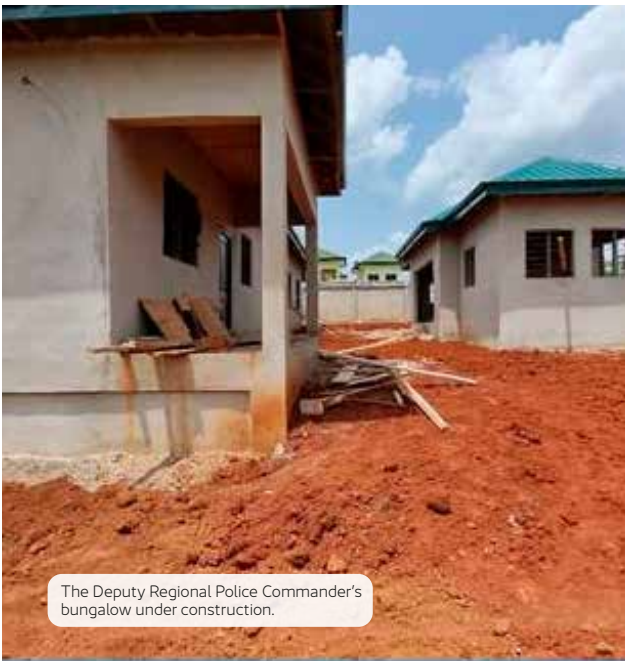
ABFA Disbursement	Year	Status of Work
GH¢576,608.40	2022	Work was ongoing as at the time of the visit. Concrete and mortar works were almost completed at about 98 percent. Outstanding works include tiling, painting, and installation of the door frames which will be done soon. The team was informed that within a space of two (2) months, work should be completed if the Contractor does not halt work. The major challenge has had to do with funding.



The bungalow under construction.



Part of the building under construction.



The Deputy Regional Police Commander's bungalow under construction.



The PIAC Team being conducted round the project.

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