



WASSA AMENFI EAST MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY

P.O. Box 10 Wassa Akropong, Western Region. GPS Code WX-0003-5545



Republic of Ghana

Our Ref WAEMA/NGO.14/VOL.III/105

Your Ref

Date: 11th March, 2022

Dear Co-Chairs,

APPLICATION TO JOIN THE SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME OF THE OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP(OGP)

I write on behalf of the Wassa Amenfi East Municipal Assembly to express our sincerest commitment to join the Subnational Government Programme of the **Open Government Partnership (OGP)**.

The Wassa Amenfi East District was carved out of the erstwhile Wassa Amenfi District in August 2004 as a District under the Legislative Instrument (L.I) 1788. On March 15, 2018, the Wassa Amenfi East District was declared and inaugurated as a Municipality with the passing of a new Legislative Instrument (L.I) 2289. It is the highest political and planning authority vested with the powers to deliberate, legislate, plan and develop the entire Municipality through the preparation and effective implementation of development plans and budgets. The Municipality has a total population of 179,696 and occupies a total land area of 1,558 square kilometres which is about 7.5 percent of the total size of the Western region.

By the Legislative Instrument creating the Municipal, it is the **overall / highest political and administrative authority** with the powers to “exercise deliberative, legislative and executive functions”, planning and budgeting, “promote and control development” and ensure the socio-economic prosperity of the citizens among other functions (see section 12 subsection 1 and 2) of Act 2016(Act 936) as mentioned above.

-To fulfil these legal obligations, the Assembly has been undertaking critical measures such as People’s Forum, Town Hall Meetings, MCE’s Community engagements, among others to create the enabling environment for its citizens to fully and effectively participate in its programs/activities. The Municipal has enjoyed the active participation of NGOs in implementing its District Medium Term Development Plan (2018-2021) and subsequently in the preparation of the new DMTDP (2022-2025) which response to the needs and aspirations of the citizens. This Plan also factors promoting child rights and welfare and ensuring that gender is effectively mainstream in our programmes particularly the plans and budgets.

However, we are not able to reach all the citizens and get them involved in our activities as required due to resources constraints and limited informed citizens. As a result, our people

are yearning for greater openness in the governance process, enhanced civic participation in our activities and calling for means of greater transparency, responsiveness, accountability and effectiveness in the functions of the Assembly.

To achieve the above, there is the need for a well – informed citizen base which is active enough to contribute meaningfully to the development and governance process. The technical capacity of the staff of the Assembly also needs to be upgraded and sustained.

Having recognized the significance of the Open Government Partnership programme as an International Multinational Intervention designed to propel good governance and build an effective civic participation mechanism for the citizens of member countries, the Wassa Amenfi East Municipal is fully committed to join the OGP programme and prepared to implement strategies that are consistent with the policies and priorities of our government and relevant to achieving the aspiration of our people and enhance information dissemination of activities of the Assembly to the citizens through its periodic community and stakeholders' engagements.

With respect to capacity to execute the OGP programme, the Assembly is more than ready and capable. The Municipal Assembly has 15 Core Departments and other decentralised departments with qualified technical staff to run the affairs of Assembly under the Political and the Administrative leadership of the Municipal Chief Executive and the Municipal Coordinating Director respectively.

We therefore hope to join the OGP programme to learn some lessons from members of the OGP platform and use their achievements to implement more results-oriented programs in our jurisdiction. It will also afford us the opportunity to present our programmes for peer review within the OGP membership fraternity where suggestions will be made for improved implementation of our programmes for greater impact in the life of our people. The Management of the Municipal Assembly headed by my good self-wishes to assure you of our fullest readiness and commitment for a successful implementation of the OGP programme in our Municipality.

In case of further information on our application please contact the Municipal Development Planning Officer, Benjamin Owusu on +233 249790107 or email; bengazi23@yahoo.com.

Thank you very much for the opportunity.

**MUN. CHIEF EXECUTIVE
WASSA AMENFI EAST MUN. ASS.
P.O. BOX ... 10
WASSA AKROBONG**

**Hon Frederick Korankye
Municipal Chief Executive
Wassa Amenfi East Municipal**



Friends of the Nation

Date March 15, 2022

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Ref. No: FoN/ADM/2022

To whom it may concern

LETTER OF SUPPORT

This is to exhibit Friends of the Nation's support for the Expression of Interest from Wassa Amenfi East Municipal Assembly (WAEMA) in the Western Region of Ghana to join the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Local 2022 cohort.

For over 25 years, Friends of the Nation (FoN) as a civil society organization practice in advocacy and research on civic participation, good governance and the use of technology and innovation to demand transparency and public accountability. FoN is the OGP Local civil society partners for Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly (STMA) and Shama District Assembly (SDA) in the Western Region of Ghana.

The Municipality previous engagements in the areas of Town Hall Meetings, Participatory Planning and Gender Sensitive Budgeting, Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting and Revenue Mobilization indicates their position on inclusive and open governance. This shows high demonstration for citizen participation in local governance which fall in the scope of the OGP values. Currently, Friends of the Nations is currently working on advocacy initiative for fair share of revenue generated from the Petroleum among the affected stakeholders in the value chain.

WAEMA over the years has proven to champion public accountability, transparency and civic participation in governance which are in line with the OGP values, thus joining the OGP Local 2022 cohort will provide the opportunity for the Assembly to share their experiences and learn from others in deepening transparency, accountability and good governance. The Assembly will also benefit from technical support from the OGP to advance open governance.

For any follow-up information please contact Solomon Kusi Ampofo through email: s.ampofo@fonghana.org. We look forward to a successful application from the Wassa Amenfi East Municipal Assembly.

For Humanity,

MEVUTA Donkris
(Executive Director)