

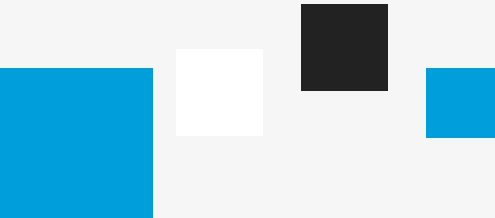
# UN IN GHANA NEWSLETTER

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UNITED  
NATIONS  
GHANA





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**INCLUSIVE  
ECONOMIC  
GROWTH &  
TRANSFORMATION**

# Collaboration with government partners ensures safe voluntary return of over 300 Ghanaian migrants



*IOM Ghana staff at Kotoko International Airport welcoming returnees. ©IOM Ghana/Angela Bortey.*

**The International Organization for Migration (IOM), in close collaboration with the Government of Ghana, facilitated the voluntary return of over 300 Ghanaian migrants from Libya via charter flight on two occasions in October 2023.**

IOM continues to work closely with its government partners and other migration stakeholders to ensure the safe return and sustainable reintegration of Ghanaian returnees as part of IOM's Voluntary Humanitarian Return Assistance Programme, supported by the Migrant Protection, Return and Reintegration Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa (MPRR-SSA) funded by the European Union.

The Ghana Health Service (GHS), Ghana Immigration Service (GIS), Port Health, National Intelligence Bureau (NIB), National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO) and Ghana Police Service (GPS) joined the IOM team at the Kotoko International Airport (KIA) to ensure a smooth post-arrival support for the returned migrants. [Read more.](#)

At the occasion of World Mental Health Day on 10 October, IOM confirmed that the mental health of returning migrants remains a priority to ensure their mental well-being and sustainable reintegration. In 2023, IOM Ghana has provided psychosocial screenings for over 500 returnees.

# ECA collaborates with Ghana to scrutinize sectoral plans



Group picture of participants of the training session. ©NDPC.

**Technical experts in programme, planning, monitoring and evaluation, and research and innovation, from key ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs) in Ghana concluded a three-day training on using Economic Commission for Africa’s Integrated Planning and Reporting Toolkit (IPRT).**

The IPRT is a software that responds to the needs of African countries to integrate both the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063 into their national development and be able to report progress in a harmonized way.

The first IPRT training in Ghana was held in October 2022 to equip planners and experts of the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) of Ghana with the applications of integrated planning and reporting toolkit, during which the Agenda for Job II were fully entered in the system and alignment with both Agenda 2030 and 2063 was finished. Ghana is a trailblazer in using IPRT to assess their sectoral plans, paving the way for further improvements in the IPRT to assist African Member States in identifying the gaps between actual performance and targets and facilitating automated reporting.

The follow-up training, therefore, organized by the ECA in collaboration with the NDPC and supported by Interconnections for Making Africa Great, Empowered and Sustainable (IMAGES) Initiatives, was held in October 2023 in Accra. The training was designed to build the capacity of experts from key MDAs to align their medium-term sectoral plans to Agendas 2030 and 2063, as well as to use the IPRT in planning, monitoring, evaluating and reporting on their plans, in addition to linking them to financing frameworks. A key result of the training was a report on the alignment of Ghana’s agricultural sector plan with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Bartholomew Armah, Chief of the Development Planning Section of the Macroeconomics and Governance Division at ECA, reaffirmed the organization’s commitment to consolidating its partnership with the NDPC, noting that ECA aims to provide continued support in the design of future National Development Plans (NDPs) and sectoral plans. This will include support for alignment, performance tracking, and linking the objectives of the plans to the national budget.

[cont. on pg. 10](#)

# Enhancing digital skills of teachers at Akropong School for the Blind



*Visually impaired teacher navigating the computer. © George Koranteng Danso/ UNESCO Ghana.*

**In a bid to promote inclusive and innovative education under the Technology-enabled Open Schools for All" project, a transformative workshop was organised at the Akropong School for the Blind to advance digital proficiency among teachers.**

The workshop was organized jointly by the Centre for Digital Learning and Open Schooling (CENDLOS) and UNESCO to equip teachers with 21st-century digital skills that would not only enrich their teaching but also empower them to independently harness e-learning resources.

The Head Teacher of Akropong School for the Blind, Veronica Dery, and the Akuapem North Association of Teachers (GNAT) Chairperson, Mercy Agblah Nuerki, underlined the significance of the occasion.

The workshop encompassed a diverse range of training sessions and modules. Teachers engaged in interactive sessions on various aspects of digital skills, delved into how ICT can be harnessed effectively for teaching and learning, as well as explored the vast educational potential offered by the internet.

The Akropong School for The Blind is part of the selected 10 pilot basic schools in Ghana to benefit from the project. The School, is located in Akropong, Ghana, and is designed to cater to the needs of visually impaired and blind students, thereby playing a crucial role in promoting inclusive education and enhancing opportunities for individuals with visual disabilities in Ghana.

The UNESCO-Huawei "Technology-enabled Open Schools for All" project is aiding Egypt, Ghana, and Ethiopia in developing, testing, and expanding Open School Systems. These systems connect in-school and at-home learning, ensuring uninterrupted, high-quality education. By integrating digital learning platforms, curriculum-aligned content, teacher digital skills, and open schooling models through national policies, the project tackles immediate challenges posed by COVID-19 while envisioning a tech-enhanced future for school education.

# Ghana hosts 2nd Africa Forum on Displacement



*The UNHCR Deputy High Commissioner, Ms. Kelly T Clements during a discussion. © Patience Folly/e UNHCR Ghana.*

**Finding African-led solutions to people forcefully displaced is paramount.**

**With the number of people forcefully displaced increasing and Sub-Saharan Africa hosting over 40 percent, finding African-led solutions to these challenges is paramount.**

Accra, the vibrant capital of Ghana, plays host to the 2nd edition of the Africa Forum on Displacement, a platform for in-depth discussions on displacement-related issues, focusing on the role of the private sector. The three-day Forum is organized by a collaborative effort of the Amahoro Coalition, UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and Inkomoko, and supported by IKEA Foundation and the Mastercard Foundation.

According to the Chairman of the Ghana Refugee Board, Professor Kenneth Agyeman Attafuah, this is an opportune time “for bringing in the private sector and partnering them in ensuring the inclusion of refugees. Clearly, traditional donors and sources of funding of UNHCR are now overstretched” Adding that “it is indeed time for all of us to come together to do our bit to ensure that nobody is left behind” He further highlighted the Government of Ghana’s endeavour to ensure

the inclusion of refugees in in Ghana through the implementation of the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty programme which seeks to ensure that the most vulnerable in society are supported to enable them to meet their basic needs.

In a strong statement to the over 200 participants calling on the private sector involvement in tackling the issues of displacement, the UNHCR Deputy High Commissioner, Ms. Kelly T Clements said “We need governments, we need politicians, we need those with power, those with wealth; you have the opportunity to have a louder voice than some of the rest of us at the table. We need the person that lives next door to us to care, to listen. We need communities, churches and mosques...We need to talk about the humanitarian consequences but also [on] solution; what’s possible”. [Read ahead.](#)

S TO END  
n GHANA



**HEALTH &  
SOCIAL  
SERVICES**



# A glimpse into the fight against Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV: Capturing stories of resilience from the field



*A mother holding her daughter's hands. © UNIC Accra*

**The search for hope can be a challenging feat, especially when faced with a life-altering circumstance like being tested HIV positive during a routine antenatal check-up.** For many expectant mothers in such a situation, the overwhelming fear of transmitting the virus to their unborn child can be paralyzing.

Across the globe, there is a glaring disparity in the AIDS response. While 82% of pregnant women living with HIV and 77% of adults overall received antiretrovirals in 2022, only 57% of children (0-14 years) accessed ART; a striking difference in HIV care and treatment for children.

In a bid to bring hope, a UNAIDS-supported project aimed at eliminating mother-to-child transmission of HIV and assisting mothers and children living with HIV to reduce their viral load, has revealed promising strides in the fight against HIV.

The initiative, implemented by the NGO Mother2Mother, has made significant headway in ensuring that positive cases amongst pregnant mothers are detected early and given the needed intervention.

“Daabi daabi woboa” literally meaning “no, no, you are lying” in Twi, is how Adjoa Attaa (not real name), an unemployed mother of three, narrated her shock when she was informed about her status. She cried for days, feeling guilty for passing it on to her last child and only found solace through the counselling and support from the project task team. [\*\*Read more.\*\*](#)

# Restoring dignity among women with Obstetric Fistula



*A group photo of partners with the First Lady of the Republic of Ghana at the launch of the Partnership to End Fistula in Ghana (PEFIG). ©UNFPA Ghana*

**The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Ghana has formed a partnership with the First Lady of Ghana, Mrs. Rebecca Akufo-Addo through the Rebecca Foundation, together with other stakeholders towards the elimination of obstetric fistula among women in the country.**

The collaborative effort is a 7-year campaign from 2023 to 2030, that seeks to garner support from the public, the United Nations, the private sector, NGOs, community actors, and individuals with the objectives of strengthening routine fistula repair in hospitals as well as organising fistula repair campaigns in selected areas to accelerate the clearing of backlog cases in communities.

The partnership has mobilised resources for about 200 cases to be repaired in 2023, up from what has been annual performance of 100 cases repaired per year.

The partnership will also explore socio-economic reintegration of fistula survivors into the community.

Speaking at the official launch of the partnership at the Korle-bu Teaching Hospital in Accra, the Country Representative of UNFPA Ghana, Dr. Wilfred Ochan, expressed delight at the commitment of the First Lady and other partners and called for the support of all relevant stakeholders in making the campaign a sustainable and successful one.

Others in the Partnership for Elimination of Fistula in Ghana (PEFIG) include the World Food Programme, Access Bank, MTN, Fidelity Bank, AT Telecommunications, and the Ghana Health Service. Others include the National Population Council, and the Media and Communications Advocacy Network (MCAN).

**[Read more.](#)**

# Young people unite to end child marriage in West and Central Africa



*A section of youth participants during discussion.. @UNFPA Ghana*

**Child marriage violates the rights of girls and is a stumbling block to their dignity. Girls forced into early marriages suffer complications in pregnancy or during childbirth.** UNFPA advocates for an end to child marriage to protect the lives of women and girls.

Recently, the UNFPA West and Central Africa Regional Office (WCARO) hosted a Youth Leadership and Participation Workshop in Ghana to mobilized youth voices as advocates for ending child marriage. This workshop formed part of the broader Global Programme to End Child Marriage (GPECM), a collaborative effort between UNFPA and UNICEF that has been in existence since 2016. The second phase of the program is nearing closure ahead of the rollout of the third phase, from 2024 to 2030.

At the closing ceremony of the workshop, the Minister for Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs, Hon. Stephen Asamoah Boateng, drew the

attention of participants to the alarming statistics in the region, where 238 million girls have experienced forced marriage before their 18th birthday, ranking the region second in global child marriage prevalence.

In his remarks, the UNFPA Country Representative, Dr. Wilfred Ochan called for accelerated action to end child marriage, adding that, 'Men and boys need to be at the centre of these efforts.' He pledged his support to working with the Government of Ghana through its institutions to curb the menace. [Read more.](#)

# UN in Ghana reaffirms its support in the wake of the Akosombo dam spillage disaster



*A resident receiving her cash support © WFP Ghana*

The United Nations in Ghana has reaffirmed its support to the Government and people of Ghana in the wake of the Akosombo dam spillage disaster that displaced an estimated 35,857 people. Led by the Resident Coordinator, Mr. Charles Abani, a group of UN Heads of Agencies from World Food Programme (WFP), UNICEF, World Health Organisation (WHO) and International Organization for Migration (IOM), visited Agbetikpo in the North Tongu district of the Volta region, to gain a thorough understanding of the humanitarian needs of the affected communities and assess the UN's immediate interventions.

At the time of the visit, the UN team from the WFP had started registering 120 households from four communities, Memodzi, Fumadokope, Dzimakope and Sikor, that had been relocated to the Agbetikpo haven in the North Tongu district of the Volta region. Out of the 120 households, some 97 received cash transfers from WFP to support their immediate food needs and strengthen their financial resilience. The registration exercise by WFP was a stopgap measure as IOM prepared to lead the registration process to allow humanitarian agencies to provide more support to affected areas.

While cash transfers were taking place, Yedent, a Ghanaian agro-group of companies, in response to a request from WFP, was transporting cartons of Tomvita X blended cereal, maize grits and maize flour, to NADMO's Emergency Operational Centre at Battor, for donation to the affected people.

Mawuena, a mother of three, is one of the affected people dwelling at the Agbetikpo haven located at the Agbetikpo DA Basic School. She was forced to leave all her belongings behind at her home in Fumadokope to find refuge from the flood. [Read More.](#)



*Mawuena (second from left) standing in the room which she occupies with 13 others. © WFP Ghana*

Following the flood disaster the UNFPA Ghana Country Office visited Adidome to donate dignity kits to affected victims. Dignity kits are a critical component of the UNFPA humanitarian response. They help women and girls maintain proper hygiene after being displaced or affected adversely by a natural or man-made disaster.

**[Read More.](#)**

In November 2023, IOM supported NADMO to register people displaced by floods in various districts along the Volta river. The registration exercise helped to understand the immediate needs of affected people and to provide crucial assistance in the North Tongu, Central Tongu, South Tongu, Shai Osudoku, and Asuogyaman districts.

IOM also teamed up with Ghana Psychological Association to provide psychosocial assistance to affected people. Following a capacity building session focused on psychosocial assistance in the context of emergencies, the team visited the safe havens in Central Tongu and North Tongu and supported 200+ people with their mental health needs, including a donation of medication to the Ghana Health Services.



*UN delegation being briefed by the NADMO officials.*  
© UNIC Accra



*Director General of NADMO, Hon. Eric Nana Agyeman Prempeh shaking hands with WFP Representative and Country Director, Barbara Clemens.* © WFP Ghana



*Registration of displaced people.*  
©IOM Ghana/David Darko



*Rapid Assessment Team of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Emergencies in a working session at Battor prior to their field work.* © UNIC Accra

## ECA collaborates with Ghana to scrutinize sectoral plans

**cont. from pg. 3**

Opere-Djan Nana, Acting Director General of NDPC, noted the importance of the IPRT in engendering a more systematic approach to the MDAs' work. He also challenged ECA to incorporate sub-regional frameworks such as the ECOWAS Vision 2050 in the IPRT.

The IPRT has been deployed in 30 Member States and one Regional Economic Community (SADC) with ongoing efforts to ensure its use by the remaining countries on the continent. The IPRT continues to undergo a series of modifications and enhancements, including an update that facilitates alignment of national plans of least developed countries with the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries.

# UN Under-Secretary-General visits UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Ghana



*Catherine Pollard at the 'Door of no return' at Cape Coast Castle. @Photo: George Koranteng Danso/UNESCO Ghana*

**The UN Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy, and Compliance, Ms Catherine Pollard has paid a visit to 'some forts and castles in Ghana, particularly in the Central Region.**

She visited the St. George's Castle, Cape Coast Castle, and Fort Amsterdam, integral components of the UNESCO World Heritage property in Ghana, encompassing a total of 28 historical landmarks.

Ms. Pollard's visit to the forts and castles in the Central Region offered an opportunity to advance understanding on the history and heritage around these slave dungeons and their effects on surrounding communities and the diaspora.

The visit also emphasized the importance of preserving historical sites and sites of memory such as St. George's Castle, Cape Coast Castle, and Fort Amsterdam as anchors, evidence and learning points for humanity in dealing with many local and global issues including racism and discrimination.

## Five social sector budget briefs launched



*UNICEF Deputy Representative, Fiachra McAsey, launched the UNICEF Social Sector Budget Briefs alongside partners from both the public and social sector. @UNICEF Ghana*

**UNICEF has launched five Social Sector Budget Briefs with partners from both the public and private sector. The social sectors were Education, Child Protection Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Health and Social Protection.**

Included as part of the launch was a discussion on how partnership with the government can increase domestic revenue to close the fiscal gap.

The evidence from the briefs were used in a discussion with the IMF which led to government prioritizing vaccine financing and doubling of LEAP amongst others. The budget briefs have now become a reference document for MDAs in their engagement with partners. The briefs can be accessed via this link: <https://bit.ly/48Dsalm>

## Annual Review Meeting re-ignites passion for the year ahead



*UNICEF and partners at the Annual Review meeting. @UNICEF Ghana*

**UNICEF wrapped its annual review meeting with over 56 partners, celebrating successes and brainstorming new ideas to set the stage for an even more exciting year ahead.**

Participants at the well-attended meeting showed passion and ownership of the partnership with UNICEF and acknowledged shortfalls that can be improved, they also discussed initiatives heading into 2024.

In his address, UNICEF Country Representative, Mr Osama Makkawi Khogali, expressed a shared purpose with the partners, emphasizing the need to evaluate strategies from 2023 against global sustainability standards. He also urged reflection on the relevance of these approaches for the children and young people they serve and posed the pivotal question of how to enhance performance in 2024.

# 70 refugees from Ghana depart for resettlement to the USA



*Mohammed and his family going through departure formalities at the airport @ UNHCR Ghana*

**It was all smiles at the Kotoka International Airport as some seventy refugees consisting of seventeen families from Ghana departed on November 29 to the United States of America to begin a new life. These included Sudanese, Congolese, Central Africans, and an Afghan.**

For most of them, like Mohammed Abdulrahim Anour, their long-awaited dream of an opportunity like this is here, and they were grateful to be given the chance to start life afresh. “The feeling is unimaginable. I am delighted this opportunity came,” says Mohammed.

Mohammed was living at the Krisan Camp with his wife, Muna, and their three children. They used to engage in vegetable farming, and burning and selling charcoal, amongst other income-generating activities to cater to the family.

“All of us from the refugee camp who are traveling today, we are like family – we’ve been together for years. I’m so happy for all of us. Maybe life in the US will be different, but we will continue to support each other,” remarked another man, who used to live and work as a farmer in the Western Region.

For 51-year-old Samuel, who has been a refugee in Ghana for about two decades, the feeling is beyond explanation. He has been a single parent who has single-handedly catered for his two children since 2012. He did menial jobs to supply their basic needs. [Read more.](#)





**GOVERNANCE,  
PEACEBUILDING &  
SECURITY**

# 30 Judges trained on Freedom of Expression, Artificial Intelligence, and Rule of Law



Group photo of 30 judges and dignitaries. @George Koranteng Danso/ UNESCO Ghana

**30 Judges were trained on Freedom of Expression, Artificial Intelligence, and Rule of Law in a three-day workshop organized by UNESCO Accra office in December 2023.**

The workshop was to strengthen the skills of judges and magistrates in substantive courts in Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Liberia on regional and international jurisprudence on freedom of expression, artificial intelligence, and the rule of law, following an Artificial Intelligence Needs Assessment Survey in Africa carried out by UNESCO in 2020 to ascertain the policy goals and capacity-building requirements of thirty-two African countries.

The survey resolved on enhancing capacities for AI governance at the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary levels as a priority.

At the opening ceremony, the Minister of Information, Hon. Kojo Opong Nkrumah, emphasized the role of freedom of expression as the cornerstone of democratic societies and urged duty-bearers to create an environment where journalists can carry out their work without fear of violence or intimidation.

The Director of the Ghana Judicial Training Institute, Justice Amadu Tanko, bemoaned yellow journalism, adding that attacks and threats on journalists and the media is never an option and must not be encouraged.

The Country Representative of UNESCO to Ghana, Mr. Edmond Moukala, said for UNESCO to advance its course of promoting fundamental human rights, it is critical to build the capacity of judicial actors to be well-versed in freedom of expression challenges both online and offline. He hinted about the likelihood of collaborating with the Judicial Training Institute of Ghana to make it a centre of excellence in training judicial actors on human rights issues.

Participants were presented with Global Toolkit for Judicial Actors to help contextualize participants' learning experiences. The judges also shared their impressions about the training.

A Court of Appeal judge from Ghana, Justice Jennifer Abena Dadzie, stated that "This programme has been thought-provoking and educative; it has equipped us, as judges, with the necessary tools to navigate the contours of issues of freedom of expression, while using new and emerging technologies."

The training was funded by the Multi-Donor Programme on Freedom of Expression and Safety of Journalists through UNESCO's Multi Sectoral Regional office in Dakar.

# 2023 UN Peacekeeping Ministerial held with a clarion call for concrete commitment and support to UN peacekeeping



*Signage at the entrance of the Accra International Conference Centre, venue of the 2023 Peacekeeping Ministerial. ©UNIC Accra*

**The Vice President of the Republic of Ghana, H.E. Dr. Mahamudu Bawumia has underscored the significance of international cooperation and partnership in maintaining peace and stability, highlighting the role of United Nations peacekeeping as a key player in these efforts.**

He urged member states of the United Nations to collaborate and make firm commitments to improve and strengthen UN peacekeeping operations. "May our discussions be fruitful, our resolutions impactful, and our shared commitment to global peace resound far beyond the confines of this Ministerial meeting." He noted.

The Vice President was speaking at the plenary session of the Peacekeeping Ministerial meeting in Accra, Ghana. He said, "Strengthening UN peacekeeping remains unwavering" adding that the partnerships formed during the meeting must contribute significantly to the betterment of peacekeeping operations globally. [Read more.](#)

# Harnessing the potential of the Ghanaian diaspora for national development: Coordinated efforts needed

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) Ghana spearheaded the annual conference of the Migration Coordination Platform (MCP), which, this year, focused on diaspora engagement.

Participating migration stakeholders from government agencies, civil society organizations, and various other partners assessed how to maximize support to the Government to reap the benefits of diaspora engagement for national development.

The MCP was established in 2021 by development partners and multilateral agencies in the migration sector in Ghana to better coordinate migration related interventions and to identify and bridge gaps in migration management.

Once a year, the MCP organizes a national gathering to enhance understanding and exchange information on contemporary migration issues.

In her opening remarks, the Chief of Mission, IOM Ghana, Fatou Diallo Ndiaye, said: "IOM believes in the power of diaspora engagement as a catalyst for transformative change. As a co-chair of the MCP, IOM is committed to uniting our efforts to tap into the immense potential of the Ghanaian diaspora, and to unlock opportunities that drive not only individual prosperity but contribute significantly to Ghana's development journey."

Highlighting the significance of the Ghanaian diaspora, estimated to be between 1.5 and 3 million citizens residing mainly in countries such as Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire, the UK, the USA, Germany, the Netherlands, and Canada, the MCP acknowledges their substantial contributions to the country.

The discussions were timely considering the launch of the Diaspora Engagement Policy (DEP) in December 2023. [Read ahead.](#)



Panel discussion on opportunities for diaspora financing moderated by IFAD. @IOM Ghana/Juliane Reissig

# Strong partnerships at the heart of Cross-Regional Dialogue for Global Compact for Migration Champions

In November 2023, the Government of Ghana, with support from the UN Network on Migration for West and Central Africa, hosted a Cross-Regional Dialogue for Champion countries of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM).

Bringing together representatives from 28 countries from Africa, the Arab States, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, this event was an opportunity to strengthen partnerships between governments across regions, discuss regional and cross-regional collaboration in GCM implementation and demonstrate the value of integrating the GCM into national planning.

Participants discussed ways to improve data collection and sharing of good practices to better understand emerging trends in cross-regional movement of people.

The dialogue concluded with a set of recommendations, which fed into COP 28 and the GCM Regional Reviews. Champion countries further highlighted the need for urgent action to adapt to and mitigate the adverse effects of climate change, as well as to adequately address loss and damage, which may compel people to leave their countries of origin. [Read more.](#)



*UN Resident Coordinator, Charles Abani, joins the Cross-Regional Dialogue for Champion countries of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. @IOM Ghana/Juliane Reissig*

# National Coordination Mechanism launched to strengthen migration governance

**The Government of Ghana has launched the National Coordination Mechanism (NCM) on Migration, supported by the UN Network on Migration and funded by the European Union.**

This mechanism is a key step in the institutional set-up needed to strengthen the coordination and coherence of the government’s work on migration. The NCM lays the foundation for the establishment of a migration commission as provided for under Ghana’s National Migration Policy.

Two key activities of the NCM will be the development of a national GCM implementation plan and a national migration knowledge management system. In preparation, Ghana carried out a mapping of stakeholders, a needs assessment and a series of consultations. These activities were informed by a step-by-step guidance produced by the UN Network on Migration to ensure effective, timely and coordinated system-wide support to Member States on implementing, following-up and reviewing the GCM.

The NCM brings together relevant government agencies from various sectors and levels of governance to implement the National Migration Policy and the GCM.

Recognizing the importance of migration for Ghana’s development, the government has recorded considerable progress in making migration more orderly and regular. The NCM is the latest step in this endeavor and will be instrumental in creating meaningful engagement and cooperation on migration by avoiding duplication of efforts. **Read more.**



*Government of Ghana representatives together with the UN Network on Migration, and European Union launching the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration. @ IOM Ghana/Juliane Reissig*



**UN DAYS &  
OBSERVANCES**

# Ghana commemorates 78th UN Day with renewed commitment to global cooperation



Traditional dancers perform at the UN Day event. ©UN Ghana

**Inch by inch, the flags of the United Nations and Ghana, in synchrony, were raised at the sound of both anthems during a flag-raising ceremony held in Accra to commemorate the 78th anniversary of the UN.**

The event, a reflection of the enduring collaboration and strong partnership between Ghana and the UN, was attended by members of the diplomatic corps, personnel from the security services and the Ghana Armed Forces, students, and staff of the UN in Ghana and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration (MOFARI) and other institutions.

“We are commemorating this anniversary at a time when the world is at the edge of a precipice... Like a chain, the UN is as strong as its weakest member, which makes it imperative that the UN makes every effort to ensure that even the smallest member state is enabled with the requisite capacity to tackle the challenges of inequality, climate change, gender equality, and human rights among others” echoed the Foreign Minister, Hon. Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey in a [speech](#).

She acknowledged the remarkable contributions of the United Nations and its efforts in addressing global challenges and emphasized the importance of multilateralism and the need for collective action in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

In his [address](#), the UN Resident Coordinator in Ghana, Mr. Charles Abani, highlighted the importance of collaboration between the UN and Member States to tackle the pressing issues of our time. He applauded Ghana for its leadership role at the United Nations and expressed gratitude for her unwavering support and commitment to the UN's mission.



The UN flag and the Ghana flag hoisted. ©UNIC Accra



# UN in Ghana celebrates World Children's Day



*Young parliamentarian addressing the house with issues from her constituency. ©UNICEF GhanaA*

**UNICEF joined the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection to celebrate this year's World Children's Day in the Northern region.**

On November 20th, Tamale hosted the 5th National Children's Parliament, marking its debut in the city. 80 young parliamentarians passionately represented their constituencies, addressing pressing issues affecting children.

Topics discussed included online safety, hunger, malnutrition, child marriage, child labour, diseases and health risks, teenage pregnancy, and quality education.

In the presence of constituency leaders, development partners, and traditional leaders, these children passionately pleaded for positive change and improvements in their daily lives based on the various themes deliberated during the mock parliamentary session.

# International Migrants Day celebrated across Ghana with focus on youth empowerment



*Winners of the basketball competition during Migrants Day celebration in Jamestown, Accra ©IOM Ghana/Juliane Reissig*

**Every year on 18 December, the International Organizations for Migration (IOM) celebrates International Migrants Day, a moment to reflect on and celebrate the contributions of millions of migrants worldwide.**

Under the theme "Act Now for a Better Tomorrow!", IOM Ghana organized a series of activities in Accra and Paga, Upper East Region of Ghana with a focus on youth empowerment to mark the day. [Read Ahead.](#)

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DELIVERING AS ONE

Contributing agencies



# UN DAYS & OTHER EVENTS

JANUARY- MARCH 2023

January	February	March
	SG Virtual Global Townhall Meeting with UN Personnel (1 Feb)	Zero Discrimination Day (1 March)
	Int Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation (6 Feb)	IWD - International Women Day ; 08
Africa Prosperity Dialogue 2024; 25 -27	World Pulses Day (10 Feb)	13th Africa Games (8 - 23 March)
World Leprosy Day (29 Jan)	Int Day of Women & Girls in Science (11 Feb)	Int Day of Women Judges (10 March)
Migration Week (IOM) (29 Jan - 2 Feb) (biennial event)	Int Day for the Prevention of Violent Extremism (12 Feb)	World Poetry Day (21 March)
Holocaust Memorial; (30 Jan)	World Radio Day (13 Feb)	World Water Day (22 March)
4 year anniv COVID-19 declared Public Health Emergency (30 Jan)	AU Summit (17 - 18 Feb)	World TB Day (24 March)
	Int Mother Language Day (21 Feb)	Int Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade (25 March)



# UNITED NATIONS GHANA



United Nations Resident Coordinator Office  
P.O. Box GP 1423 Accra, Ghana  
Tel.: +233 (0) 302 215670-9/ 215680-3  
Fax.: +233 (0) 302 772836 / 773899

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