



PRESS RELEASE

Accra

Financing Climate Resilient Infrastructure in Ghana to safeguard physical and institutional components of Ghana's infrastructure system

Accra, Ghana, 23 March 2022: A new report outlining Ghana's current and future needs for climate change adaptation, co-written by UNOPS, will be released tomorrow in Accra. The Report, "Ghana: Roadmap for Resilient and Infrastructure in a Changing Climate" provides Ghana with a resilient infrastructure roadmap to help build a sustainable, inclusive and resilient infrastructure such as power distribution lines, homes, roads and drains.

Ghana is expected to experience more severe climate hazards such as flooding, as well as more frequent and intense droughts as a result of climate change. This has the potential to put years of progress toward growth and development targets at risk.

Building a more sustainable, inclusive and resilient infrastructure, therefore, is critical to delivering development benefits over the long term.

The report will be published by UNOPS, under the leadership of the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, and in collaboration with the Global Center on Adaptation, University of Oxford, UN Environment Programme.

"Adapting to potential impacts of climate change will be an essential part of Ghana's progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and other development objectives, including gender and inclusivity," said Ifeoma Charles-Monwuba, UNOPS Director and Representative in Ghana.

"We are proud to support the government of Ghana's efforts to build a more sustainable, inclusive and resilient future for its people through this infrastructure roadmap," she added.

With a focus on the energy, water and transport sectors, the study considers infrastructure as an integrated system to develop a pipeline of climate-resilient projects, policies and capacity-building initiatives to advance climate adaptation. The roadmap includes a strong focus on solutions that work with nature and that safeguard physical and institutional components of Ghana's infrastructure system. This is designed to be aligned with, and to inform, Ghana's national strategic development and policy plans.

"Ghana is focused on building a more sustainable and resilient society by putting in place measures that ensure we adapt to climate change impacts on infrastructures such as roads, dams, power distribution lines, homes, drains and all structures that life revolves around," said Dr. Kwaku Afriyie, Ghana's Minister of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation.

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| P. O. Box GP 2339, Accra | Tel: 0302 665511, Website: www.ghana.un.org; E-mail: info.accra@unic.org; Twitter: @UNinGhana; FB: @UNinGhana

"Safeguarding the physical and institutional components of Ghana's infrastructure system will enable the country to successfully progress along a trajectory of sustained growth," he added.

The report is further accompanied by a handover and training to government officials on the open-source data and tools used within the assessment.

The capacity to better understand the country's vulnerability to climate hazards, and to respond through appropriate adaptation measures, will help build systemic resilience into government policy for decades to come, and may allow for more flexible, greener, or more affordable options for infrastructure decision makers.

Explore further: <https://www.unops.org/news-and-stories/news/building-climate-resilience-in-ghana>