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ISSER is a leading research institute that is committed to carrying out research and training that promotes the socio-economic development of Ghana and Africa. Established in 1962, ISSER has evolved into one of West Africa’s most respected institutes of research, known for applying academic skills to real-world challenges.

The Institute’s achievements in social science research, the high standard of its training programmes and the impact of its advocacy drives have earned for it a strong reputation and an enviable network of relationships in both national and international circles.
VISION
To be recognized globally for promoting knowledge for development through authoritative policy research, training and advocacy.

MISSION
ISSER’s mission is to carry out activities that would promote the socio-economic development of Ghana in particular and Africa in general. Specifically, the institute is expected to undertake research in the social sciences, and training that:

- Have immediate bearing on the problems and the development needs of Ghana in particular and Africa in general;
- Relate to special assignments for government and other agencies as a way of providing guidance, support and advice;
- Are in keeping with the academic purposes of the University especially in relation to advance teaching, enriching and adding to the teaching and effectiveness of institutional programmes in the social sciences;
- Serve to monitor and evaluate the effects of development policies, projects and programmes both in terms of their objectives and general consequences.

OUR VALUES
Our values are fundamental to all activities and interactions, and are to describe the ethos and character of ISSER. These are traits that staff will aspire to and will ensure that everyone acts and behaves in a manner that supports the realization of the institute’s goals.

TEAMWORK
We will leverage each individual’s unique expertise to achieve the best results and respect the contributions of all.

CREDIBILITY
We will be thorough and sincere in all our work to ensure the accuracy and integrity of our outputs.

RESOURCEFULNESS
We will push ourselves to develop solutions in our work and continuously seek new opportunities.

RESPONSIVENESS
We will respond proactively to the changing dynamics and needs of our environment.

COMMITMENT
We will act in the best interest of the institute, holding ourselves accountable for our roles.
In several ways 2014-2015 was a year of exciting renaissance. We tenaciously followed our line of activities – research, publications, training and advocacy drives. Amongst others, we organised an international workshop on gender analysis and released two institutional publications including ‘The state of the Ghanaian economy report’, the launch of which was followed by a roadshow.

We pursued our new strategy (2014-2019), the old strategic plan (2010-2014) having been completed.

Changes currently on-going in the University of Ghana to transform it into a research-intensive university is stimulating. It is the institute’s aim to take a leadership position in this process.

One of the changes was the introduction of the Collegiate System which saw ISSER come under a Management Committee. The Committee was inaugurated in August 2014. It is a huge step towards enhancing good governance within our institution. We will strive to make it work.

As a research institution, we cherish the building and retention of highly qualified and well-trained researchers.

We pride ourselves in working as a team with such motivated, committed and efficient manpower. In the light of this, we welcome into our fold Dr. Fred Dzanku with background in Agricultural Economics, Dr. Aba Crentsil with a background in development planning and Dr Cynthia A. Tagoe with a background in Geography. Welcome into our fold.

As regards capacity development initiatives, we have instituted a capacity building programme for senior and junior staff.

For the 2014/2015 academic year, both junior and senior staff received institutional support to pursue approved professional development programmes of various kinds. New research fellows are consciously propped with well-targeted learning opportunities.

These efforts are consistent with our conviction that an empowered human resource is our strongest bet for success.

These and many more developments happening here at ISSER are an indication that we are well on track towards achieving our strategic goals (2014-2019).

I wish to express my sincere thanks to our cherished partners and collaborators for their continued support.

I thank the staff of the institute. Together we form a great team. I encourage us all to continue to work as a team and to pursue excellence in every endeavour.
AT A GLANCE
OUR EIGHT STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Research
   Promote a research agenda that is forward-looking and relevant to the development of Ghana

2. Evaluative thinking
   Consciously promote evaluative thinking throughout the Institute

3. Training
   Ensure the sustained relevance of teaching and learning programmes to meet the demands of the job market

4. Stakeholders
   Enhance stakeholder relationships in pursuit of mutually beneficial objectives

5. Dissemination and Advocacy
   Be proactive and strategic in information dissemination and policy advocacy

6. Processes
   We will review and implement processes that facilitate research training and advocacy

7. People
   Build a highly qualified, well-trained, motivated, committed and efficient team

8. Financial management
   Secure and adequately manage our financial resources to ensure that we deliver on our aims
Climate Change Finance in Ghana

The Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research and Overseas Development Institute (ODI), in collaboration with Ghana’s Ministry of Finance (MoF) held an end-of-study workshop to share key findings of ‘Climate change finance in Ghana’. The study sought to show how climate finance is integrated in Ghana’s national budget and to identify spending that could be categorised as climate finance.

It aimed to promote effective climate finance delivery in Ghana.

Key Findings
One such key finding is that most of the national spending directed towards climate action is not labelled as ‘Climate Finance’. There is no mention in the National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) of how funds will be raised to deliver on the plan outlined in the policy document and no process outlined to ensure transparency and accountability. Additionally, there is also no finance strategy to accompany the plan, and insufficient capacity to coordinate and oversee spending across government.

The study noted that climate change is not a primary objective for the majority of climate related spending and awareness of the NCCP and issues relating to climate change vary across government institutions.

Undoubtedly, climate change is a new area of public policy due to the significant impact it has on people’s lives in Ghana. While the National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) of Ghana was launched in July 2014, at present, however, there is a limited understanding on what the cost of responding to climate change will be in Ghana. Similarly, there is little knowledge of current spending on climate change related activities in the country.

On the backdrop of these gaps, the ‘Climate change finance in Ghana’ study sought to:

- Review public spending on activities that are related to climate change, and to assess the extent to which this expenditure responds to existing policy and institutional demands.
• Unravel how climate change-relevant expenditure passes through the budgetary system in response to national policy setting.

• Assist in the mapping of a strategic financing framework for climate change that promotes a whole-of-government approach to climate change actions through the use of country systems.

As a methodological approach, the study used the well-tested analytical framework (Effectiveness Framework) developed by ODI. This framework embodies a hierarchy of principles, criteria and indicators to measure effectiveness of policy, institutional operation and expenditure.

Thus, using this framework, the study was undertaken at both the National and Sub-national levels. Keta Municipal Assembly and Atiwa District Assembly were used as case studies for the sub-national level analysis.

Public Expenditure and Implementation Review (PEIR) of the Health Sector

The Ghanaian health system is one which has made good progress towards universal health coverage, notably in the introduction of a national health insurance scheme.

However, it also faces considerable challenges which include financial and geographical access to health services which undermine efforts to bridge the equity gap. Most importantly, there are persistent challenges in the efficient and effective use of existing financial resources and weak capacity to mobilize extra resources in support of the goal of universal health coverage. These undermine efforts to bridge the equity gap.

In supporting the Government of Ghana (GoG) to assist in developing the response to these challenges the Ministry of Health (MoH) found it expedient to conduct a Public Expenditure and Implementation Review (PEIR). The PIER was to provide a comprehensive analysis of public sector spending and outcomes and provide information on the public-private mix of goods and service provision. It was also to cover public expenditure priorities, which is the link between expenditure inputs and outcomes, and public sector institutional arrangements.

Certainly this is an effort to streamlining spending and improving related outcomes in the health sector. The focus of the Public Expenditure and Implementation Review is to provide a broad overview of the sector to assist on its journey towards Universal Health Coverage and also provide sufficient detail to enable valid conclusions to be drawn.

It will also complement the Health Sector Medium Term Development Plan (HSMTDP) and other key documents for the MoH and the wider health sector in the next 3-5 years.

Specifically, the study aims to map out all of the sources and available funding to the health sector. The purpose of this expenditure tracking survey is to allow further consideration of the overall flow of funds in the sector and the impact of availability of funds on individual health care facilities and the services which are offered.

Quantitative Baseline and Follow-Up Surveys for the Impact Evaluation of the LEAP 1000

UNICEF Ghana contracted ISSER to conduct a quantitative baseline and follow-up surveys to collect data for the impact evaluation of the
LEAP1000 initiative in Ghana. LEAP1000 is a social cash transfer program targeted to pregnant women and mothers of children under one year.

LEAP1000 is a collaborative initiative between the MoGCSP, UNICEF-Ghana and USAID who have entered into an agreement to extend the existing LEAP programme. They intend to target a specific sub-group of extremely poor households that are missed in the current LEAP targeting approach.

This is conceived against the backdrop of evidence that shows that almost all stunting takes place before a child’s second birthday - a period commonly referred to as the first 1000 days (from conception to 24 months).

Furthermore this is anchored on the proven impacts that a social protection intervention may have on poverty and malnutrition in a child’s very early years.

LEAP1000 is being piloted in a total of ten districts in Northern Ghana (three districts in Upper East region and seven districts in Northern region). It aims to target 6,000 households with pregnant women and infants. The districts have been selected based on USAID’s Strengthening Partnerships, Results and Innovations in Development (SPRING) Initiative using the criteria of the proportion of the highest populations of poor people in Ghana that also have a high incidence of poor nutrition.

LEAP1000 households are very different from the typical LEAP households. As is to be expected given the targeting criterion for LEAP 1000, these households are much younger with many more pre-school children, more prime-age adults and fewer elderly household members compared to typical LEAP households. For example, 26 per cent of LEAP 1000 household residents are under age 5 years compared to only 9 per cent in LEAP.

On the other hand almost 25 per cent of LEAP households are age 60+ compared to only 5 per cent in LEAP 1000 households. LEAP 1000 households are also significantly larger (6 versus 4 members on average) compared to only 9 per cent in LEAP.

Communities within the ten districts are targeted based on existing poverty rankings established at district level. Poverty rankings of communities are based on the criteria and knowledge of the district assembly. These are known by officials namely District Social Welfare Officers, District Health Officials, and District Chief Executives. However, priority is given to the poorest communities which are not already covered by LEAP (i.e. non-LEAP).

If the allocated number of households per district cannot be reached by targeting non-LEAP communities only, the programme will also target non-LEAP households in the poorest LEAP communities.

**Compression and Control: Governing Resources, Quality, and Commodity Chains in Ghana’s Shea Sector**

This project is the result of previous studies on the value chain of shea, mango and cashew in the Northern Region of Ghana. The findings show that the shea nut commodity chain, induced by global market pressure - is undergoing the largest changes.

While it was worthwhile to create an overview over the three main non-traditional export crops in Northern Ghana, it has become clear that it is the important dynamics that unfold in global...
markets between transnational companies and local producers.

Data collected from Ghana and Europe shows that the market for the sector is experiencing not only fast growth but also providing shea producers with both new constraints and new opportunities such that the hype for value addition has resulted in new practices and new trading systems.

These are taking place among actors whose economic activities and access to resources especially land are guided by entrenched cultural structures that prevents equal access.

The cumulative effect is that this puts pressure on local women to produce high quality goods for higher prices. However, within the cultural setting, women’s access to land does not necessarily guarantee them access to its natural resources.

Additionally, the high demand for quality standards at the global level has led to restructuring and new trading arrangement that controls and ensures effective organization, sourcing and product traceability systems. These developments imply that local women will have to adapt to the changing trends to meet buyers’ requirements in order to be integrated in the international market.

To understand these dynamics, the study will be contextualized within the framework of formal and informal institutions guiding land tenure systems particularly customary arrangements and the concepts underpinning quality standards.

Aim of the project
Given the unfolding trends, we would argue that a more careful exploration of the dynamics in the shea value chain is important to gain better insights and make meaningful contributions for interventions. This is significant not because of the cultural nuances that structure rural economies but how the proliferation of development agencies working towards rural women's development is able to bring effective changes that affect their economic activities to improve livelihoods.

The project highlights three potential areas of research interest: Firstly an improved understanding of how formal and informal land tenure system interact and more importantly how informal land tenure arrangements in rural societies permit or not permit equal resource access.

Secondly a closer look into product quality in order to understand how local women are enduring the fast technological changes. Finally, a deeper understanding of whether the women have been able to engage with the new dynamics in the value chain and take advantage of the opportunities in premium prices.

The Project is undertaken by the Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER) in collaboration with the Centre for Research Development (ZEF) Bonn, Germany with funding from the Volkswagen Foundation. It is to be undertaken within 3 years and it is expected to be completed by August 2018.
MA/MPhil Development Studies Programmes - ISSER
Report For 2014/2015 Academic Year

In the 2014/2015 academic year, 19 students were offered admission to the MA Development Studies Programme. Together, ten (10) courses were run in the two semesters, comprising six and four core and elective courses respectively. Development Training Workshops I and II, which are run in semester one and two respectively, took place in Nsawam-Adoagyiri, Ga East, and Awutu Senya East Municipalities.

At the end of the academic year July 2015, thirteen (13) students were able to submit their dissertations for examination, with six of them going into extension. Between October and December 2015, four of those who went into extension submitted their dissertations, while two were to submit at the time of writing this report.

So far, the results of seven (7) of the seventeen (17) dissertations submitted have been determined by the Academic Board, with 6 passing, subject to corrections.

In the 2014/2015 academic year, there were six MPhil students on the MPhil Development Studies Programme at ISSER, who had enrolled in previous academic years. Two candidates that graduated in the course of the academic year.

This brought to thirty the total number of PhD students who registered for the 2014/2015 academic year.

As part of the programme, the first year students travelled to Germany in May 2015 for two months summer school at the Centre for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn.

Five students defended their theses and graduated from the University. The following are the names of the students who graduated and their theses titles:

- Dr. Freda Asem: Technical efficiency of smallholder horticultural farmers in Ghana (November 2014).
- Dr. Robert Afutu Kotey: Youth Livelihoods and Entrepreneurship in the Mobile Telephony Sector in the Greater Accra Metropolitan area (April 2015).
- Dr. George Adiah: Inequality of opportunity and children's educational and health outcomes in Ghana (May 2015).
- Dr. Daniella Sedegah: Demand Responsive Approach and its Significance for Sustainable Management of Water Facilities in the Shai-Osudoku District (June 2015).

PhD Programme

In August 2014, seven Ghanaians and a Ugandan were admitted to the 2014/2015 academic year under the Ghanaian-German Division for Development Studies (GGDDS) programme to pursue PhD in Development Studies at the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER). Of this number, five were female and three males.
ADVOCACY AND EXTENSION

The 2014/2015 was very lively and fulfilling as the institute carried out the activities and engagement that provided it with the platform not only to share knowledge and information, but to listen to and learn from its stakeholders and partners. These engagements have provided opportunity for rigorous debate about important development issues – debate that help not only to uncover fresh information but also to illuminate alternative solutions.

The Institute was host to many visitors – including the media many of whom consider ISSER as the ‘go to’ organisation when it comes to objective edible and credible information on social and economic issues. The public, private organisations, partners and individuals have the same attractiveness towards ISSER on similar basis. This informs their continued engagement in and work with the Institute on ongoing basis.

Researchers of the Institute, on their part, continue to avail themselves for external events and platforms that afford them the opportunity to make relevant contributions, hold discussions and engage in programmes.

Major advocacy and extension activities in 2014/2015 are represented, in brief below:

Launch of Ghana Social Development Outlook 2014

Prof. Ernest Aryeetey, Vice Chancellor of the University of Ghana launched the Ghana Social Development Outlook 2014, the second of such report in the series.

The report analyses policy decisions and their impact on social issues and proffers useful recommendations. It was produced by the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER).


Presentation of the overview was followed by discussions, which gave participants the opportunity to ask questions and interact with researchers and writers of the report.

Speakers at the event lauded ISSER for the consistency and rigour with which it carries out its research work. As a result, the Institute has made and continues to make significant achievements, making it one of the flagship institutes which epitomize the research focus of the University of Ghana.
Development Policy Practice Talk on Food Marketing and Poverty Alleviation

The first of the series of seminars lined up to kick-start the first Development Policy Practice Talk (DPPT) has been held at the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER).

It was the brain-child of the University of Ghana’s Development Policy Poverty Monitoring and Evaluation (DPPME) Centre of Excellence. The theme was ‘Food Marketing and Poverty Alleviation’.

Prof. Klaus Grunert, of the department of Business Administration, University of Aarhus, Denmark and Director of MAPP Centre for Research on Customer Relations in the food Sector, who spoke at the seminar treated the over 50 participants to an instructive presentation.

He explained that consumers’ tastes and preferences – as regards the health attributes, quality, sustainability, authenticity and convenience of products – were becoming increasingly sophisticated and complex, making it imperative for players in the food chain to reassess their roles, particularly investing in consumer research and creating linkages with other members of the chain.

Prof. Grunert noted that developments on the world food market have heightened the need to compete by creating more customer value.

Meeting of Regional Partners in Evaluative Research

The Measurement, Learning and Evaluation (MLE) Unit of ISSER held a meeting with regional partners to share knowledge and best practices in MLE and map out plans for future collaborations in evaluative research. The five-day event held at ISSER was attended by various institutions that either implement or conduct impact evaluation of development projects in West Africa.

It comprised presentations that sought to deepen participants’ understanding of the role and operations of the ISSER MLE unit, the role of MLE in evidence-based decision making, tools and best practices in MLE and the application of CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interviews) for survey research.

There were also sessions of practical application of MLE tools. Presenters at the meeting included: Prof. Felix Asante, Director of ISSER; Prof. Chris Udry, Yale
Dissemination Workshop – GENDA Project

A dissemination workshop has been held to share with stakeholders key issues and recommendations of a two-year IDRC-funded research project – The GENDA PROJECT.

The project sought to give better understanding of the nature, role and dynamism of micro, small and medium enterprises, and entrepreneurship in Africa.

It is a cross country project, implemented simultaneously in three countries: Ghana, Kenya and Uganda. The Ghana project was launched on May 31, 2013 and has been conducted over the last two years by a collaborative research team from the University of Ghana.

The team is made up of Dr. Charles Ackah, ISSER (lead investigator), Ms. Abena Oduro, Economics Department, University of Ghana (co-investigator), Dr. Nkechi Owoo, Economics Department, University of Ghana (co-investigator) and Dr. George Domfe, CSPS, University of Ghana (co-investigator).

The workshop was opened by Prof. Felix Asante, Director of ISSER and chaired by Prof. John Gyapong, Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana.
2015 Think Tank Global Exchange Programme

The Director of ISSER, Prof. Felix Asante and Dr. Cynthia Tagoe (research fellow), joined representatives of 43 think tanks from Africa, South Asia and Latin America – grantees of the Think Tank Initiative – and research-to-policy stakeholders for the 2015 Think Tank (TTI) Exchange Programme. It was organized by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

The event was held in Istanbul, Turkey under the theme “Research Quality: Approaches, Outreach and Impact”. It provided a global platform for participants to share knowledge, experiences and challenges in research. This was also an opportunity to network and foster collaborations.

Shea as Agricultural Cash Crop in Ghana

Findings of a recent study have raised questions about the economic potential of shea to lift rural women out of poverty.

This came to light during a presentation made by Dr Martha Awo research fellow of ISSER at a dissemination workshop held in Tamale.

Her presentation was titled ‘Shea in Ghana: understanding the opportunities, challenges and the implications of engaging shea producers in global value chains’ and it was based on the project ‘Value Chains, Peasants Autonomy and Capture in Times of Increasing integration of Global Food Markets’.

She argued that contrary to the often romanticized accounts of shea’s ability to economically empower women, findings of the study point to a trade that is hardly equitable, a trade in which the rural woman, for all the time and labour she invests to garner and process shea fruits for the local market and for export, makes very minimal earnings.
Electricity Insecurity and Its Impact on the Economy of Ghana

The Economy of Ghana Network (EGN) of ISSER, organized a workshop on the theme “Electricity Inadequacy and its Impact on the Economy of Ghana” to share and discuss findings of two studies conducted under the Public Sector thematic area of the EGN.

Discussion Highlights
A study titled “Electricity inadequacy and its Impact on Micro and Small Businesses in Ghana” – presented by Dr. Charles Ackah, Head of the Economics Division of ISSER, investigated 350 electricity dependent micro and small enterprises (MSEs).

The study showed that one third of the sample indicated that electricity supply was inadequate for their business. It was found that this power deficit lowered a firm’s annual sales by 37 - 48 percent.

Health, Care and Well-Being in Ghana

The Economy of Ghana Network (EGN) of ISSER has organized a workshop under the Public Health and Population thematic area, on the theme “Health, Care and Wellbeing in Ghana”.

It aimed to explore the socio-economic impact on families who give non-medical care to relatives battling with cancer, and societal attitudes towards People Living with HIV (PLHIV).

It stressed on the essential need to start a conversation that will draw the nation’s attention to the challenges that these conditions portend for victims and their families.

There were two main presentations themed – “Care for Cancer Patients in Accra” by Dr. Deborah Atobrah, and “Experiences after Testing HIV Positive” by Dr. Ben Kwansa, both researchers of the Institute of African Studies and members of the Public Health and Population thematic area of the EGN.

He further argued that considering the fact that about 90 percent of businesses in Ghana are MSEs, that they provide two-thirds of jobs in Ghana and that only one in every 10 firms operates a back-up generator, the poor electricity supply is considered a major constraint to business operations.

Dr. Charles Ackah revealed that presently, on average, the nation is losing about US$ 2.2 million per day or US$ 686.4 million annually that translate into 2 percent of annual GDP on account of the energy crisis alone.

Mr. Ismael Ackah, Head of the Policy Unit of the Africa Centre of Energy Policy (ACEP), presenting on the topic “Ghana’s Power Crises: The Hype, The Hope and the Reality,” noted that Ghana requires about $4 billion in the electricity sector over the next 10 years to make up for past investment deficits.

*The study, “Electricity insecurity and its Impact on Micro and Small Businesses in Ghana” is part of the larger Gender and Enterprise Development in Africa (GENDA) Survey (2014), in which 1,250 MSEs (including 350 electricity dependent MSEs) were surveyed across all the 10 regions of Ghana.
Ghana’s Sixth Non-Partisan District Assembly Election

Dr Emmanuel Debrah, Head of the Political Science Department, College of Humanities of the University of Ghana, has stated that contrary to theoretical assumptions in support of non-partisan local government elections, citizens’ interest and participation in non-partisan local government elections has always been low going by the several rounds of local government elections held so far as compared with partisan general elections.

He was speaking at a workshop organised by the Economy of Ghana Network (EGN) of the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER). It was under the theme: Ghana’s Sixth Non-Partisan District Assembly Elections.

He postulated that while the latter is reported to record as much as 70 percent citizen participation, the former has recorded performance levels as low as 30 to 40 percent.

Ghana’s Upstream Petroleum Sector

The Economy of Ghana Network convened a workshop on the theme “Upstream Petroleum Sector: the Challenges and Prospects for the Ghanaian Economy” during the year under review at the ISSER Conference, centre.

Dr. Joseph Kwadwo Asenso, of the Real Sector Division, Ministry of Finance, presented a paper under the theme – “Upstream Petroleum Sector: the Challenges and Prospects for the Ghanaian Economy”.

The workshop recommended, among other things, that the national economic agenda should continue to support the development of other viable sectors such as agriculture, the manufacturing industry, tourism and mining.

It noted that it was important to diversify Ghana’s sources of income and export base, in order to ensure that oil proceeds do not crowd out other viable sectors.

Additionally, Government expenditure should be checked and de-linked from oil revenue inflows.
ISSER/ IFPRI Roundtable Discussion on Youth, Employment and Agriculture

The Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER) in collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) held a roundtable discussion on the theme: Youth, Employment and Agriculture. The round table, held at the ISSER conference Centre, gathered experts including academicians, researchers, students, policy makers and civil society to deliberate on how Ghana can realize the prospects of agriculture.

Main topics discussed
Panel presentations examined critical questions such as: the dynamics of the Ghanaian labour market; the perceptions and aspirations of the youth; how agriculture can provide the kind of lifestyle that usually attracts the youth to urban areas and the effectiveness of public interventions. Also considered were global best practices.

Launch of the State of the Ghanaian Economy 2014


The SGER has remained one of the most comprehensive, and credible sources of informed analysis on the Ghanaian economy – a valuable resource to guide government and high level policy makers in the public and private sector, civil society, bilateral and multilateral partners and academicians among others.

The 2014 report was launched by Mr. Ebenezer Asante, Chief Executive Officer of Mobile Telecommunications Company MTN. The Special Guest for the occasion was Mr. Kojo Aboagye – Debrah the Deputy Managing Director of BSIC Ghana Ltd trading as Sahel Sahara Bank.

A roadshow was subsequently carried out in Ghanaians outside the capital city of Accra to engage with ISSER Researchers on the state of our economy and infrastructure in the western Region.
SNAPSHOTS OF 2014 / 2015

SGER Roadshow 2015
November 2015
Takoradi polytechnic

SGER Roadshow
Ahanta West
The publication of this book has been inspired by Ghana’s status as an emerging oil economy. It draws on lessons from other oil economies for development.

Some of the topics discussed are: oil and structural transformation; the nature of the oil industry in Ghana; experiences in managing oil issues; the macroeconomic implication of oil booms and its lessons for Ghana; oil and Ghana: monetary management with capital inflows; oil discovery, real exchange rate appreciation and poverty in Ghana; oil and Ghana’s development; some global lessons in governance and institution building; oil economy and the resource curse syndrome: can Ghana make a difference?; oil and the Western Region: implications for local and regional development.

The book notes that transforming the economy with the help of the oil reserves requires the right policies to create the enabling environment, and this must necessarily be followed by efficient implementation and enforcement.

It cautions that oil is an exhaustible resource and will be exhausted unless extraordinary steps are taken to limit production. It says that it is necessary to find strategic ways to use revenue from the oil for the structural transformation of other sectors of the economy to ensure all sectors contribute effectively to national economic development.
This edition of the Ghana Social Development Outlook (GSDO) is the second in a series, following the maiden one published in 2013. The main objective of the GSDO is to provide a critical and timely document which captures and discusses pressing social issues in Ghana at the time of writing.

Thus, it seeks to aid the development of Ghana. Among other things, it seeks to be informational, and also to provide a document for the policy debates and related actions that will move Ghana forward on its development agenda. The GSDO also provides the much needed context-relevant and timely information and course material for teaching development-related social issues in Ghana.

Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) explores the role of effective revenue mobilization in development. The 14 chapter Report is divided into two parts – Mobilizing Local Finance for Development and Investment Climate for Domestic Resource Mobilization – with each chapter dealing with a specific DRM issue in Ghana.

These include the effects of the financial crisis on domestic resource mobilization; trends in domestic savings mobilization; how to reach the un-banked through rural banks and micro credit; and domestic resource mobilization through capital markets. Other issues discussed are district assemblies financing of development projects; corporate social responsibility and development; macroeconomic performance and business confidence in Ghana; the role of the extractive industry; the role of identification in revenue mobilization, natural resource and DRM; and gender mainstreaming and DRM.

There is a demonstrated relationship between health and development. Health status, as measured by factors such as life expectancy, infant mortality, crude death rate, fertility, and net child nutritional status of the population, is closely linked to the welfare and development of the nation. For this reason, the importance of prioritizing healthcare as a means of attaining development cannot be overstated.

Placing Health at the Centre of Development is the fruition of an effort that sought to concentrate research and political attention on health as a fundamental determinant of development in Ghana.
List of Publications of Fellows for the 2014 / 2015 Academic Year

Professor Felix Ankomah Asante

**Book**

**Book Chapters**


**Journal Articles**


**Professor Kwabena Asomanin Anaman**

*Book*


*Book Chapter*


*Journal Articles*


**Professor William F. Steel**

**Book Chapters**


**Journal Article**

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**Professor Augustin K. Fosu**

**Book**

**Book Chapters**


**Journal Article**

**Working Paper**
Professor Peter Quartey

Books


Book Chapters


Journal Articles


**Working Paper**


**Professor Dzodzi Tsikata**

**Books**


**Book Chapters**


**Journal Article**


**Technical Paper**


**Working Paper**


**Dr. Nana Akua Anyidoho**

**Book Chapter**


**Journal Articles**


Working Paper


Dr. Robert Darko Osei

Book

Book Chapters


Journal Articles


### Working Papers


### Dr. Simon Bawakyillenuo

#### Book Chapters


### Journal Article


### Dr. Fred M. Dzanku

#### Journal Articles


**Dr. Ama Pokuaa Fenny**

**Book Chapters**


**Journal Articles**


Dr. Charles Ackah

Book

Book Chapters


## STAFF LIST 2014/2015

### Senior Members

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<td>Prof. Felix A. Asante</td>
<td>Associate Professor / Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Kwabena Anaman</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Augustine Fosu</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. George Owusu</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Peter Quartey</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Dodzi Tsikata</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. William F. Steel</td>
<td>Adjunct Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Charles Godfred Ackah</td>
<td>Senior Research Fellow / Head, Economics Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Dr. Adobea Yaa Owusu</td>
<td>Senior Research Fellow/Head, Social Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Isaac Osei- Akoto</td>
<td>Senior Research Fellow / Head, Statistics &amp; Survey Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Robert Darko Osei</td>
<td>Senior Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Nana Akua Anyidoho</td>
<td>Senior Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ernest Nifa Appiah</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Elizabeth Asante</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Patricia Aidam</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Martha A. Awo</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Simon Bawakyillenuo</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Aba O. Crenstil</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Fred M. Dzanku</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Cynthia A. Tagoe</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ama Fenny</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Frank Otchere</td>
<td>Junior Research Fellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Lucy B. Ofori-Ayeh</td>
<td>Senior Assistant Registrar / Administrative Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Dorcas Oppai-Tetteh</td>
<td>Research Development Officer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Senior Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Nancy Kkwaf-Kwao</td>
<td>Chief Accounting Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Prosper Amegashie</td>
<td>Chief Library Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Beatrice A. Boahene</td>
<td>Principal Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Mary Eslander Quaye</td>
<td>Principal Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Alberta Anku</td>
<td>Senior Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Adelaide Asante</td>
<td>Senior Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Ebenezer Acquah</td>
<td>Senior IT Assistant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Senior Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Hellen Sunu</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Johnson Aduah</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Irene Tagbor</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Josei Bessa-Jones</td>
<td>Accounting Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Damaris Agyei-Frimpong</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. William O. Nsiah</td>
<td>Assistant Transport Officer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Junior Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Samuel Turkson</td>
<td>Senior Driver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Samuel Kwame Agyei</td>
<td>Driver Grade I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Stephen Adjetey Adjei</td>
<td>Driver Grade I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Emmanuel Nutsugah</td>
<td>Driver Grade II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Alex Birikorang</td>
<td>Driver Grade II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Joshua K. Fosu</td>
<td>Headman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Hayford Asare Sintim</td>
<td>Headman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Joseph Kyei</td>
<td>Cleaner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Mohammed Suleman</td>
<td>Senior Sanitary Labourer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Peter Akanyidu</td>
<td>Gardener</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Contract Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Vicentia Yaa Kotia</td>
<td>Publications and Communications Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Richmond Kingsley Egyei</td>
<td>Graduate Research Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Freda Asem</td>
<td>Business Manager, MLE Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Joseph Darko</td>
<td>Operations Manager, MLE Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Stella Osei</td>
<td>PhD Programmes Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Emmanuel Larbi Ofsei</td>
<td>Graduate Research Assistant, GSOP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Patience S. Thompson</td>
<td>Assistant Business Manager, MLE Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Martyn Ofori-Kuragu</td>
<td>Graduate Research Assistant, CAY SEED Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nana Yaw Ohene Adutwum</td>
<td>Research Assistant, Statistics and Survey Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Derek Asuman</td>
<td>Graduate Research Assistant, Economics Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Michael Kodom</td>
<td>Graduate Research Assistant, Social Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Rita Tetteh</td>
<td>Messenger/Cleaner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Peter Nkansah</td>
<td>Porter</td>
</tr>
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</table>
# LIST OF MAJOR RESEARCH PROJECTS (ON-GOING AND NEW) AT ISSER IN THE 2014/2015 ACADEMIC YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Agriculture and Sanitation Nexus</td>
<td>Bill &amp; Melinda Gates/Center for Development Research, Univ. of Bonn</td>
<td>Professor Felix A. Asante</td>
<td>€ 43,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Economy of Ghana Network</td>
<td>The African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)</td>
<td>Dr. Robert Darko Osei</td>
<td>US $200,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Evaluation of Maternal and newborn referrals project</td>
<td>Univ. of North Carolina &amp; Chapel Hill</td>
<td>Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto</td>
<td>US$441,355</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gender and Enterprise Development in Africa: A Cross-Country Comparative Study</td>
<td>IDRC</td>
<td>Dr. Charles Ackah</td>
<td>US $730,613</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gendered Social Contexts of Adolescent HIV Risks Behaviors: Family, Peers and Community Influences in Ghana Wave 2</td>
<td>George Washington University School of Public Health</td>
<td>Dr. Elizabeth Asante</td>
<td>US $ 199,905</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>PhD Programme: Ghana/German Center of Excellence in Development Studies</td>
<td>DAAD/Center for Development Research, Uni. Of Bonn, Germany</td>
<td>Director, ISSER</td>
<td>€ 300,000</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>ISSER YALE Project</td>
<td>Economic Growth Centre Uni. of Yale</td>
<td>Dr. Robert Darko Osei / Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto</td>
<td>US $935,100</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Institutional Support</td>
<td>Think Tank Initiative (TTI), IDRC</td>
<td>Director, ISSER</td>
<td>CAD 600,000</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Urban Crime Nexus</td>
<td>IDRC</td>
<td>Professor George Owusu,</td>
<td>CAD 497,000</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Promoting Participatory &amp; Evidence Based Agricultural Policy Processes in Africa</td>
<td>IFPRI</td>
<td>Professor Felix A. Asante</td>
<td>US$59,499.90</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>YouthSave Project</td>
<td>New American Foundation, Save the children’s Federation Inc., Center for Social Devt Washington Univ. St. Louis</td>
<td>Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto</td>
<td>US$ 745,000</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Measurement Learning and Evaluation Unit</td>
<td>Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation</td>
<td>Dr. Robert Darko Osei / Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto</td>
<td>US$800,000</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Supporting African Municipalities in Sustainable Energy Transitions (SAMSET)</td>
<td>EPSRC/DFID/DECC</td>
<td>Dr. Simon Bawakyillenou</td>
<td>£190,727.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Description</td>
<td>Funding Source</td>
<td>Lead Investigator(s)</td>
<td>Amount ($)</td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 ISSER-Social Impact Governance and Accountability Project</td>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>Professor Peter Quartey</td>
<td>US$483,749</td>
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<td>17 The Impact of Reminders of Post—Harvest Aggregation Services and Timely Provision of price Information on Small Holder Farmers Market Power and incomes in Mali</td>
<td>AGRA / International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)</td>
<td>Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto / Dr. Fred Dzanku</td>
<td>US$456,292</td>
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<td>18 Impact Evaluation of Inoculant Usage on farmer Yields and farm Income in Ghana</td>
<td>AGRA</td>
<td>Dr. Robert Osei / Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto</td>
<td>US$452,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Impact Evaluation—Community Action in Improved Farmer Saved Seed Yam in Ghana and Nigeria</td>
<td>Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation / Crops Research Institute</td>
<td>Professor Felix A. Asante</td>
<td>US$600,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Public Expenditure and Implementation Review (PEIR) of the Health Sector</td>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
<td>Professor Felix A. Asante / Dr. Ama P. Fenny</td>
<td>Ghc825,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Quantitative Baseline and Follow-Up Surveys for the Impact Evaluation of the LEAP 1000</td>
<td>UNICEF, Ministry of Gender and Social Protection, DFID, World Bank and USAID</td>
<td>Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto</td>
<td>US$454,932.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Land Commercialization, Gendered Agrarian Transformation and the Right to Food</td>
<td>Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland</td>
<td>Professor Dzodzi Tsikata</td>
<td>US$449,897</td>
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<td>23 Northern Agriculture Survey - Endline</td>
<td>IFPRI</td>
<td>Dr. Simon Bawakyillenou / Prof. Felix A. Asante</td>
<td>US$125,000</td>
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