
**NETWORK OF WOMEN IN GROWTH
(NEWIG), GHANA.**

ANNUAL REPORT (2005)

CORPORATE STATEMENT

VISION

The vision of NEWIG is to be an internationally recognized non for profit agency for building the capacity of the vulnerable.

MISSION

NEWIG's mission is to improve the socio-economic and political status of women in Ghana, particularly the poor, marginalized and vulnerable.

GOALS

- ❖ To get women into gainful employment.
- ❖ To empower women to attain and play leadership roles in society.
- ❖ To make women aware of their rights.

CONTACT ADDRESS:

P. O. Box AC 699
Arts centre
Accra

TEL: 233 – 21 – 782253
233 – 24 – 4981846

E-MAIL: newig2003@yahoo.com
newig@ngosinghana.org

www.ngosinghana.org/newig

Introduction

Network of Women in Growth (NEWIG), Ghana was founded by Mawusi Nudekor Awity on 8th January 2002 in response to contributing her quota to fighting economic, social and political poverty especially among Ghanaian women.

NEWIG was duly registered on 9th September 2003 and has a Ladies Club of a membership of 30 committed women.

Our mission is pursued through:

- ❖ 5 months Entrepreneurial Development Programmes run biannually.
- ❖ Building capacity of NEWIG Ladies Club members to enhance their business delivery and performance.
- ❖ Small scale enterprise development.
- ❖ Gender mainstreaming advocacy.
- ❖ Initiating and disseminating information on issues relevant to the development of women.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors is responsible to assist and monitor the activities of the organisation. The Board consists of four women and three men.

NAME	DESIGNATION	PROFESSION	PHONE
Nana Oyetia	Chairperson	Health Consultant	024 4280092
Dr. Joyce Asibey	Member	Retired Educationist	021 500474
Lt. Col Charles Awity	Member	Army Officer	021 329356
Mr. Kojo Mattah	Member	Accountant / Banker	024 4312329
Ms. Abena Otu	Member	Business Development Consultant.	020 8150750
Dr. Edem Dzregah	Member	Lecturer	024 3169632
Mr. Sylvester Tepey	Member	Marketing Consultant	024 405200

Administration

Currently NEWIG two permanent workers run NEWIG secretariat: the Executive Director and the Office Assistant. Due to financial constraints, the Project Officer who was part of the permanent team was re assigned as a part time worker. Four volunteers are part of the teaching and administrative staff. Currently, all the staff offer their services without pay.

Executive Director's Message

The year 2004 was a very challenging and busy year for NEWIG. This is not new to NEWIG since from its inception, it has faced numerous constraints on the part of office accommodation, programmes, staffing and finance. Since it was formed in 2002, NEWIG has never enjoyed any financial support for all but one of her activities. This year, the Project Officer was re-appointed on part-time basis due to financial constraints.

The challenges are made tremendous assistance of women development. and poverty two major concerns of



enormous, yet NEWIG strives to advance the from welfare to Employment generation alleviation in all forms, are NEWIG.

This year, ten (10) the 5 months trainer-NEWIG Development Centre.

women were taken through training programs at the Entrepreneurial

outreach programs which took us to Vume, Yorve, Sogakofe, Nkwanta, (all in the Volta Region) and SOS Tema benefited six hundred and two (602) women and men. Gender mainstreaming workshops were also organised for 60 participants drawn from the University of Ghana and SOS staff. Fora on political empowerment to get women involved in District Assembly elections were organised in various parts of South Tongu District. With the first grant ever received, NEWIG in collaboration with The African Women's Development Fund organised a Gender Violence and HIV/AIDS Awareness Program at Sogakofe in the South Tongu District.

The vocational skills

This year, Sarah Wiseman joined NEWIG as a volunteer, from America from August to December, 2005. Her services were very beneficial. She has hence left the country for the U.S.

I wish to express the gratitude of NEWIG to South Tongu District Assembly, SOS Ghana, more especially SOS Vocational Institute and The African Women's Development Fund for the diverse supports enjoyed. My sincere gratitude also goes to the NEWIG staff for their dedication, efficiency, loyalty and commitment for helping the organisation pursue its goals. I cannot forget to mention the NEWIG Ladies Club, whose members have been very supportive. A special thanks goes to Lt. Col. Awity for the various supports in the form of financial and administrative assistances offered.

In my concluding remarks, I wish to appeal to donor agencies, philanthropists and corporate bodies to help NEWIG reach out to more.

I wish you a prosperous New Year.

Mawusi Nudekor Awity
Executive Director

Highlight of Activities Undertaken

1. Entrepreneurial Skills Development Training

29th January 2005



Graduates of Intake 3 at the graduation ceremony.

A five months Entrepreneurial Skills Development Training was organised for 14 women. This programme runs from Mondays to Fridays and sometimes Saturdays. They were trained in the following 16 disciplines: Floral, Balloon, Beads jewelry, Batik, tie dye, Francotic, Screen print, Pomade and Soap making, Cake decoration, Dress making, Catering, Design concept, Bookkeeping and Costing, Entrepreneurship, Leadership skills and Public speaking.

The graduation ceremony took place at the GNAT Teachers Hall on the 29th January 2005. Among the people present were the Chief Executive Officer of Strategic Communication (STRATCOMM), Mad. Esther Cobbah, The Country Director of SOS Ghana, Mr. Kojo Mattah and also the Executive Director of Center for Development Partnership (C. D. P.), Mr. Kofi Awity. Mad. Esther Cobbah promised 2 sewing machines that have been delivered to the organisation. TV 3, Graphic, Choice fm, GTV were the press in attendance.



Students at work in the sewing class

2. Soap & Pomade Workshop

8th March 2005

A day's training workshop in Soap & Pomade making was organised for Students and Staff of SOS Vocational Training Center at Tema. This was to encourage especially the final year students to start their own business from the skills they have acquired.

3. Gender Mainstreaming Workshop

25th – 26th May 2005



Some of participants at Gender Mainstreaming Workshop at the University of Ghana, Legon

A two days workshop on Gender Mainstreaming was organised for the students and lecturers of the University of Ghana, Legon. Chronicle and Graphic covered the closing ceremony.



A participant making a contribution at the workshop

4. Gender Mainstreaming Workshop

13th June 2005

A day's workshop on Gender Mainstreaming was organised for the teachers of SOS Vocational Training Centre, Tema. The Country Director of SOS Ghana, also took part in the workshop. Graphic covered the programme.

5. Entrepreneurial Skills Development Training

18th June 2005



Intake 4 trainees at their graduation ceremony

A five months Entrepreneurial Skills Development Training was organised for 6 women and 1 man. They were trained in the 16 disciplines as mentioned early. The graduation ceremony took place at the GNAT Teachers Hall on the 18th June 2005. Hon. Gladys Seidu the MP for Chriponi was one of the dignitaries present. Metro TV, GTV, Graphic and



Products of Intake 4

6. Soap making Training
22nd – 23rd July 2005



Soap making demonstration at Yorva

A two days training workshop in Soap making was organised for some men and women in Yorva, a village in the South Tongu District. They were also lectured on Domestic Violence.



Executive Director in a group picture with participants at Yorva

7. Women's Empowerment Workshop

25th – 26th August 2005

Four fora were organised for Yorve, Vume, Dabala, Godzekpota populace to encourage women to actively involve themselves in active politics especially at the district and unit committee levels.

8. Entrepreneurial Skills Development Training

August – January 2006

A special 5 months entrepreneurial development training for a survivor of domestic violence. The trainee would graduate on the 6th January 2006.

9. Skills Acquisition Workshop

18th – 22nd October 2005

50 women in Nkwanta in the Volta Region were trained in Beads jewelry, Soap, Shampoo and Conditioner making. This programme aimed at getting the people acquire these skills to enable them to start their own business instead of moving to the city for non-existing jobs.

10. Soap Making Training

10th – 11th November 2005

A two days training programme in Soap and Shampoo making was organised for the residents of Vume a village in the South Tongu District. This programme was to provide income-generating activities in the area.

11. Gender Violence & HIV/AIDS

30th December 2005



DCE. Mad. Cate Aglarh delivering a speech at Gender Violence and HIV/AIDS campaign at Sogakofe.

A days campaign against Gender Violence & HIV/AIDS was organised for 200 people of Sogakofe and it environs. The programme was co-funded by The African Women's Development Fund (A.W.D.F.). The activities included a radio talk show on ADA FM, a route march through the principal streets of Sogakofe, the district capital, a durbar and an open forum. In attendance were the District Chief Executive, the District Medical Officer , some Traditional Rulers, Assembly Members, Community Based Organisations and Religious Groups drawn from the District. Dispatch, Radio Ada and Ghanaian Times were the media houses in attendance.





NEWIG in route march in campaign against Gender Violence and HIV/AIDS at Sogakofe

Funding

NEWIG is a self-funded organisation. Funds raised from services NEWIG rendered, dues of NEWIG members, commitment fees from entrepreneurial development training trainees, grants from the founder and a few individuals, are NEWIG's sources of financial support. NEWIG has offered some financial support to some of her past students to start or build their business.

Challenges:

- ❖ Inability to fully deliver due to institutional support.
- ❖ Vehicle to facilitate work especially in the rural areas.
- ❖ Under-staffing due to lack of funds.
- ❖ Limited office and training space.

Conclusion:

Despite all these difficulties, the organisation is poised to work harder to empower the marginalized, poor women. Programmes for next year include political workshops to encourage more women to stand for district assembly elections; Bi-annual 5 months Entrepreneurial Development Training for unemployed university female graduates; Gender Violence & HIV/AIDS. The organisation is therefore appealing to all for assistance to achieve its goals.