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



**2013 ANNUAL REPORT**

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# **CORPORATE STATEMENT**

## **VISION**

NEWIG has a vision of a society in which men and women are accorded equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities for sustainable development.

## **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.

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## **Introduction**

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

NEWIG was duly registered on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2004 and has formed three women groups in Accra, Hamile in the Upper West Region and Tefle in the Volta Region.

The organisation's main goals are:

- \* To get women in gainful employment and good health.
- \* To empower women to attain and play leadership roles in society.
- \* To empower women through functional literacy and entrepreneurial skills training.
- \* To make women aware of human and legal rights.

## **Activities**

### **Entrepreneurial Training and Capacity Building Programmes**

Under our entrepreneurial development programmes, we organise trainings in Enterprise Creation and Business Management for women to recognise and avail themselves of business opportunities as well as sharpening their entrepreneurial and managerial skills for better business management.

- **Gender / Women Rights Trainings and Maternal Health Care**

NEWIG organises seminars and workshops on Gender and Women's Leadership Trainings. It also involves trainings in Domestic Violence, Gender and HIV/AIDS. We also run programmes which encourages changes in health-related behaviours and attitudes of women.

- **Leadership / Women's Political Empowerment**

Fora, seminars and workshops on Political Leadership Skills Building especially for women at the grassroots level and Good Governance are areas NEWIG implements its political empowerment programmes.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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

### **Name**

### **Occupation outside NEWIG**

- Mad. Philomina Serwah Akoto Sam (Chairperson) – Entrepreneur
- Nana Okufu Dartey 11 – Retired Social Worker
- Daasebre Oti Bruku 11 – Agriculturist / Army Officer

- Mr. Thomas Agbo - Retired Educationist
- Mad. Patience Tetteh - Business Development Consultant
- Ms. Nanice Sika Yirenkyi - Broadcaster
- Ms. Joyce Opoku-Boateng – Legal Practitioner

### **Administration**

The staff strength is 9: 7 full-time workers and 2 part-time workers. Two of the full time workers are foreign volunteers (Japan and Canada): The full time workers are the Executive Director, - Assistant Project Officer, 2 Field Officers, Office-Assistant. Part-time workers are Project Officer and Finance Officer while the voluntary services of four local Field Officers are engaged as at when necessary.

## Executive Director's Message



MAWUSI NUDEKOR AWITY

The year has been graceful though a bit challenging. African Women Development Fund (AWDF) sponsored the organization to participate in a Fund-raising workshop in Uganda Kampala and the Executive Director was nominated to undergo the training. NEWIG sponsored one staff Susan Agyemang to participate in a Micro-Finance certificate course in Coady International Institute, Addis Ababa while Crossroads Canada also sponsored Ms. Agyemang to pursue a two week certificate course in Community Mobilisation in Canada.

Again with the support of AWDF, products of some selected beneficiaries of NEWIG entrepreneurship programs have been sent to Ghana Standard Board for certification. Our message of Promotion of Cottage Industrialization is fast spreading with numerous requests from women's groups for training. With funding from EMpower Foundation, the 11 batch of young unemployed graduates received training in entrepreneurial skills. The 3 months training benefited 20 female graduates of second cycle schools and tertiary institutions. Access to markets project is also gaining solid grounds and we are hope that a Sales Outlet will be opened in Accra next year to support beneficiaries.

The Youth Leadership which is self-financed is catching –up fast as well as the Outreach programmes on Women's rights issues and the Domestic Violence Act.

Management and Board are very grateful to AWDF, EMpower Foundation, Crossroads Canada, UNFPA and AWYTIE Foundation for their support.

A new vibrant Board of Directors has been put in place with Madam Philimina Serwah Akoto as the Board Chairperson. Management and the entire staff congratulate all the newly appointed members and wish them well. So also has a new Resource Mobilisation Team been formed with Madam Sam as the Head.

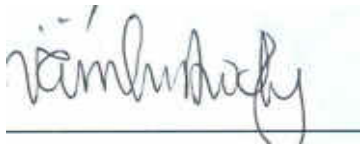
For the next year **NEWIG** is committed to:

- Provide integrated services for SMEs and other economic actors so as to create an enabling environment among for enterprise growth and development at the grassroots level

- Strengthen the skills of SMEs to be able to dialogue effectively with other stakeholders on issues pertaining to private-sector development policies.
- Provide vocational skills training in organic toiletries making for rural women from neem seed oil, coconut oil, shea and cocoa butter
- Provide entrepreneurial skills training for unemployed second cycle and tertiary institution graduates Run trainings on women's leadership / rights for young women;
- Expand hostel facilities to accommodate more trainees

Next year has a lot for the organization to offer and we are all poised for action.

I wish you a prosperous New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mawusi Nudekor Awity', is written over a light blue rectangular background. A horizontal line is drawn below the signature.

Mawusi Nudekor Awity  
Executive Director

### Highlights of activities undertaken

1. The 12<sup>th</sup> batch of the Youth-in-Entrepreneurship Course for 20 unemployed second cycle and tertiary institution female graduates passed out after a 3 months intensive training. The course covered training in technical skills, life skills, entrepreneurship (business management) as well as tools & materials. The training was co-sponsored by EPower Foundation and NEWIG.



Fig. 1 A section of the young women at their graduation



Fig. 2 Trainees in a beads jewelry class

2. A 12 days training program for 60 fistula obstetric survivors drawn from the three northern regions of Ghana, namely Northern, Upper East and Upper West Regions.

The program which took place from 28<sup>th</sup> October and ended on the 8<sup>th</sup> November in Tamale was to empower the participants with the basic components of successful entrepreneurship, by giving them training in technical skills, life skills, entrepreneurship (business management) as well as tools & materials. The training was fully sponsored by UNFPA



Fig. 1 Participants in a textiles class



Fig. 2 Some of the trainees displaying their finished products (soap) and certificates

3. A training workshop on soap organized from 5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> May, Godzekpota and 29 women in District in the Volta Region. manufacturing processes of known as Alafresh using only alatasoap, pure honey, fresh leaves as well as coconut oil

This training was self



and cosmetics processing was 2013 for 59 women in Galotse in the South Tongu Participants were introduced to eco-friendly bathing soap natural materials such as aloe vera, fresh lemon juice and and shea butter.

sponsored.

4. A Youth Leadership Project which was instituted last two years continued for a batch of thirty (30) pupils from Vume Junior High School and thirty (30) young women from Sogakofe. The youngsters were taken through trainings twice in a week while the young women have their training once in a month. The aim of the project is to train and mentor the beneficiaries into leadership positions and to become role models.



A group picture of some members of the Youth Leadership Forum

5. Local outreach programmes on Women's Rights were organised at the District Hospital, Tefle, Sokpoe, Vome and Koji in addition to business management interactions for individual and group artisans, petty traders, hairdressers and seamstresses





Mawusi Nudekor Awity at the District Hospital educating a group of women on how to deal with domestic violence



Educating a dressmaker on how to keep business records.

6. Access to Markets Project to support beneficiaries of our entrepreneurial skills programs was launched. Selected beneficiaries' products have been submitted to Ghana Standards Authority for certification and customer care training organized for 10 young women

**NEWIG's major sources of income for 2013 were from:**

- \*AWYTIE FOUNDATION
- \* EMpower Foundation
- \* Internally generated income
- \* Africa Women Development Fund
- \* United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- \* Fundraising activities

**Challenges:**

- \* Inability to fully deliver due to lack of institutional support.
- \* Insufficient funds to run proposed programs
- \* Vehicle to facilitate work especially in the rural areas.
- \* Under-staffing due to lack of funds.

**Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2013**

	<b>Income (\$USD)</b>		<b>Expenditure(\$USD)</b>	
2013 financial year	Foundation and donor grants	50,000	Projects & Trainings expenses	50,000
	Individual contributions	15,000	Salaries & Wages	42,429
	Sales of NEWIG products	30,000	Employees benefits	6,026
	Service deliveries	22,000	Taxes & Insurances	6,479
	Commitment fees	3,000	Equipment rental & Maintenance	1,200
	Fundraising activities	55,000	Fundraising/Development expense	10,000
	Hiring of conference room	5,000	Utilities	5,000
			Dues & Subscriptions	510
			Professional Development	6,500
			Bank charges	189.47
			Audit fees	1,026.31
			Telephone, Postage, Internet & Delivery	1,800
			Supplies & Materials	2,978.53
			Transport & Travel (T&T)	7,061.69
			Charitable Contributions	3,000
			Resource Centre Construction	25,000
			Miscellaneous Expenses	800
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>180,000</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>170,000</b>

