



FAITH in Ghana Alliance



NATIONAL REFLECTIONS AND CONSULTATIONS ON FAITH REORGANIZING IN GHANA:

NOVEMBER, 2021 – APRIL, 2022

REPORT BY FACILITATORS:
Rev. Dr. Frederick P. Deegbe
Apostle James Kofi Abbey

20th April, 2022



FUNDING PARTNER





FAITH in Ghana Alliance



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**FAITH IN
ACTION**
INTERNATIONAL



FAITH in Ghana Alliance



MAIN FOCUS:

**A FORUM FOR PROMOTING ACTIONS ON INCLUSION,
TRANSPARENCY AND HARMONY!**

SPECIFIC AREAS OF WORK:

- **PEACE AND CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION**
- **ENGAGE IN SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DIALOGUE**
- **PROMOTE COMMUNITY-BASED MULTIFAITH ORGANIZING**
- **CAPACITY BUILDING SUPPORT FOR FAITH-BASED INSTITUTIONS IN GHANA**
- **NETWORKING AND PARTNERSHIPS ON COMMON PURPOSES**
- **PROMOTE SOCIAL FRIENDSHIPS AND SOLIDARITY AMONG FAITH GROUPS**
- **UNDERTAKE JOINT AND COMMON ACTIONS FOR THE COMMON GOOD**
- **SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS**
- **FINDING MODELS FOR COMMON SOCIAL DISCERNMENT(CSD)**
- **PROMOTE FAITH-INSPIRED MODELS FOR ECONOMIC REFORM AND INCLUSION**



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



As National Coordinator, it falls on me very delightfully to acknowledge the Members, Partners, Actors, Facilitators and other broader Stakeholders who participated in our multifaith reorganizing process in Ghana. The National Seminar from 26 - 28 April, 2022 was the one space that had the representatives of these broad Stakeholders. I had interacted and shared my joy, appreciation and acknowledgement during the time together at the seminar. I am happy to repeat these sentiments as part of the report on the "National Reflections and Consultations on FAITH reorganizing in Ghana".

First, there can be no better way of acknowledging the Member Organisations of FAITH in Ghana Alliance than to include their identities in this report. (See Chapter 9: IDENTITY OF MEMBERS). I wish to thank the following individuals who represented their respective Member Organisations and served on the National Steering Committee of FAITH in Ghana Alliance. Madam Doris Bramson and Mr. Charles Nuoriyee for the Marshallan Relief and Development Services; Alhajis Yusif Quainoo and Mumuni Issah Dimbie for Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission; Sheikh Armiyawo Shaibu and Imam Adamu Shaibu for the Office of the National Chief Imam; Rev. Fr. Dieu-Donne Kofi Davor and Mr. Denis Appiah Sasraku for the National Catholic Secretariat of the Ghana Catholic Bishops' Conference; Hajias Hajara Telly and Ayishetu Abdul-Kadiri for the Federation of Muslim Women's Associations in Ghana; Mr. Ernest Asigri and Apostle James Kofi Abbrej for the Ghana Pentecostal and Charismatic Council; Madam Joyce Larko Steiner and Hilary Kodji for the Christian Council of Ghana; and Mr. David Yiridong Issaka, Madam Esther Williams and Rev. Sr. Regina Ignatia Aflah, HDR for Caritas Ghana. They gave their time and talent to accompany the processes towards this outcome report. I wish to thank Caritas Ghana specially for the role they played in providing logistical support services to FAITH in Ghana Alliance, including managing the finances. I wish to further acknowledge the following staff of Caritas

Ghana and the National Catholic Secretariat, namely; Mr. Robert Akoto Quaigyah, Rev. Sr. Seraphina Adiyaga, SMI and Mr. Shadrack Armah; who were always handy in responding to our practical needs.

On behalf of the Member Organisations and National Steering Committee, I wish to thank Faith in Action International for their partnership in sharing their experiences and models of grassroots Faith Organizing, engaging proactively in our local processes, contributing significant funds to enable our local processes and assuring FAITH in Ghana Alliance of their continuous friendship, fraternity, solidarity and accompaniment.

Rev. Dr. Fred P. Deegbe and Apostle James Kofi Abbrey accepted the task of serving as Facilitators. This report gives just a glimpse of their overall effort. We are most thankful and delighted at your services, dear Facilitators.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the FAITH in Ghana Alliance Regional Teams in Northern, Upper-East, Upper-West, North-East, Savannah, Ashanti, Greater-Accra and Central regions for their active engagement, zeal and determination to promote multifaith organizing at community level.

Mr. Samuel Zan Akologo
NATIONAL COORDINATOR
April, 2022.



1. INTRODUCTION



The capacity of Faith-Based Organizations (Islam & Christian) in Africa to influence public policy, promote good governance and drive social transformation, has been widely recognized. This has been particularly the case for Ghana where Faith traditions enjoy unwavering respect. There is even now greater urgency for Faith Groups to be more proactive towards this end as it appears that Traditional Authority who also played comparable roles have been weakened for obvious reasons.

The leverage of Faith Groups has been noted for their large constituency, grassroots presence, credible voice, ability to influence high-level political actors, their convening power and control of social behaviour. That is why in Ghana, we have had in the past, many National Civil Society Organizations doing everything possible to co-opt our Faith Based Institutions for their major advocacy strategies and fundraising. One readily calls to mind IDEG and the Civic Forum Initiative (CFI), CDD and CODEO, SEND Ghana and Ghana Aid Effectiveness Forum etc. State Agencies like the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE), the Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), the National Peace Council, Social Welfare Department and the Ghana COVID-19 Trust Fund have, at various times, courted the collaboration of Faith Groups to enhance the effectiveness of their services to the population.

The initiative to promote a multi-faith network and cooperation through the FAITH in Ghana Alliance seems to have filled a critical need to catalyse joint and common actions by Faith Groups in a systematic and coordinated manner.

We have embarked on the process of reflection and dialogue. We have gained insights about how to improve the organizational form, structure, modus operandi and collective ownership for it. This report focuses on issues that deal with the Reorganization of the Alliance to make it a credibly constituted reorganized body

being mindful of Inclusion, Transparency and Harmony in the Ghanaian society. We saw the unequivocal call by all actors we engaged with in the consultations and reflections to ensure that mutual respect, honesty and trust underpinned relationships in this reorganizing process. Many others lamented and expressed fears that FAITH in Ghana Alliance may likely suffer similar fate of lacking sustainability like other multifaith organizing in the recent past. Others too, especially the Members, suggested that the COVID-19 pandemic experience where each person became the other's keeper, has become a great impetus to sustain this mutual cooperation among diverse Faith Groups on a single platform. We even heard our Roman Catholic Brothers and Sisters refer to recent calls and actions of their Leader, Pope Francis, to promote mutual fraternity among religions.



2. BACKGROUND:



FAITH in Ghana Alliance is a multi-faith network of both Christian and Muslim faith traditions. It is devoted to undertaking common and joint actions that promote Inclusion, Transparency and Harmony in the Ghanaian Society. It draws its membership from

- The Marshallan Relief and Development Services (MAREDES), an NGO of the Catholic Knights and Ladies of Marshall
- The Federation of Muslim Women's Associations in Ghana (FOMWAG)
- The Office of the National Chief Imam (ONCI)
- The Ghana Pentecostal and Charismatic Council (GPCC)
- The Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission in Ghana (AMM)
- The National Catholic Secretariat of the Ghana Catholic Bishops' Conference (NCS/GCBC)
- The Christian Council of Ghana (CCG); and
- Caritas Ghana, which serves as its temporary Secretariat.

There are currently eight (8) similar Regional-based multi-faith Networks which are affiliated to the National Network (Northern, Upper-West, Upper-East, North-East, Savannah, Ashanti, Central and Greater Accra Regions). FAITH in Ghana Alliance was conceptualized in 2015 and became operational in 2016 with funding from STAR Ghana Foundation to engage with the 2016 General Elections for the promotion of peace. The Multi-Faith Network has since worked on common projects on Anti-corruption, Social and Behavior Change Communication on COVID-19, Anti-vigilantism, Anti-Land Grabbing, Public Policy Dialogue on managing Hazardous waste in Ghana etc. The Network is chaired by a Muslim Woman in the person of Hajia Ayishetu Abdul-Kadiri who is an Educationist. Mr. Samuel Zan Akologo has been Co-founder and National Coordinator since 2016. FAITH in Ghana Alliance is currently partnering with Faith in Action International, based in the USA to undertake a broad consultation towards its reorganization to enhance its impact and profile in Ghana.

**FORUM FOR ACTIONS ON INCLUSION, TRANSPARENCY AND HARMONY
(FAITH) IN GHANA**

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR STAR-GHANA ANTI-CORRUPTION
FUNDING CALL**


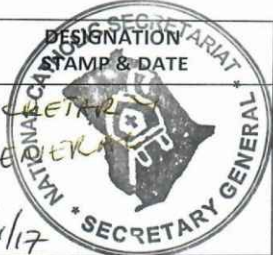








The FAITH in Ghana is an innovative alliance of Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs) in Ghana. It is currently made up of EIGHT FBOs, two of which are mass Women's Groups of Religion. The FAITH in Ghana Platform was first applied for the 2016 General Elections to promote social cohesion.

Useful lessons were learned from this Innovative Alliance and documented in the Report: **"Transforming Religious Differences and Experiences for Social Cohesion and Democratic Governance: A Report on Lessons Learnt and Best Practices From an Interfaith Cooperation for the 2016 Elections Engagements in Ghana"**. The Structure, Protocol and Approach of the FAITH in Ghana Platform is set-out in Chapter Three of the Report which will remain the basis for enhancing the relationship among the Members for its sustainability. **(See pages 13 – 15).**

We the under-signed Parties to this MoU affirm our Membership of the FAITH in Ghana Platform and hereby agree to apply it for **Innovative Alliances Component** of the STAR-Ghana Anti-Corruption Funding Call. Our common and collective interest is to work towards sustaining the FAITH in Ghana Platform and to work towards building a new Ghanaian culture that abhors corruption through a systematic change of behaviours and attitudes.

We affirm that the National Catholic Secretariat (NCS) is the Legal Holder of the project and its relevant Units will provide Administrative and Logistical services as required.



NO.	NAME OF INSTITUTION	NAME AND SIGNATURE OF REPRESENTATIVE	DESIGNATION STAMP & DATE
1.	NATIONAL CATHOLIC SECRETARIAT (NCS)	REV. FR. LAZARUS ANONDEE 	SECRETARY GENERAL 30/11/17 
2.	OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL CHIEF IMAM (ONCI)	SHEIKH ARMIYAUW SITAIBU 	SPOKESPERSON FOR NAT. CHIEF IMAM 30/11/2017
3.	FEDERATION OF MUSLIM WOMEN ASSOCIATION OF GHANA (FOMWAG)	HAJIA AYISHEU ABDUL-KADIRI 	FOMWAG NAT. SECRETARY 30/11/17
4.	GHANA PENTECOSTAL AND CHARISMATIC COUNCIL (GPCC)	Ernest N. Asigri 	GHANA PENTECOSTAL & CHARISMATIC COUNCIL P.O. BOX 403 CANTONMENTS - ACCRA 30/11/17
5.	MARSHALLAN RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (MAREDES)	CHARLES NUORINTEE 	ADMINISTRATOR 30/11/2017
6.	AHMADIYYA MUSLIM MISSION (AMM)	Athay Ahmad Anderson 	Deputy Ameer III 11/12/17
7.	CARITAS GHANA	MR. SAMUEL ZAN AKOLOSO 	EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  CARITAS GHANA 30/11/2017
8.	CHRISTIAN MOTHERS' ASSOCIATION (CMA)	ELIZABETH ADDAL BOATENG 	CHRISTIAN MOTHERS' ASSOCIATION 4-12-17 Executive Secretary

NATIONAL CATHOLIC SECRETARIAT GHANA CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE



TRANSFORMING RELIGIOUS DIFFERENCES AND EXPERIENCES FOR SOCIAL COHESION AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE: A REPORT ON THE ROLE OF AN INTERFAITH PLATFORM IN THE 2016 ELECTIONS IN GHANA



SUPPORTED BY:  **STAR
Ghana**
Strengthening Transparency,
Accountability and Responsiveness

JUNE, 2017

Edited By: Samuel Zan **AKOLOGO**

**NATIONAL CATHOLIC SECRETARIAT
GHANA CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE**



**TRANSFORMING RELIGIOUS DIFFERENCES AND
EXPERIENCES FOR SOCIAL COHESION AND DEMOCRATIC
GOVERNANCE: A REPORT ON LESSONS LEARNT & BEST
PRACTICES FROM AN INTERFAITH COOPERATION FOR
THE 2016 ELECTIONS ENGAGEMENTS IN GHANA**



JUNE, 2017

SUPPORTED BY:



Edited By: Samuel Zan AKOLOGO



3. OVERVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE



Our responsibility as facilitators is to facilitate a participatory and consensus building of understanding around the following questions:

- i. Telling our story: What makes us (FAITH in Ghana Alliance) credible?
- ii. Organizing Better: How can we organize more effectively?
- iii. Measuring our Future Impact: If we are successful, what will be different?
What improvement will:
 - a. You like to see for Members of the Alliance?
 - b. Others like to see for themselves?
 - c. Society like to see?

The terms of reference provided a total of ten(10) professional days of accompaniment from February to April 2022. During this period, the facilitator will be available to attend series of meetings, workshops, seminars, webinars etc. to be called at any time by FAITH in Ghana Alliance as a means of gathering relevant information. In addition, the facilitator was to undertake literature review, especially review relevant reports on previous work by FAITH in Ghana Alliance and Faith in Action International.



4. APPROACH ADOPTED



We, as independent Facilitators, have reviewed about seven years of existence of FAITH in Ghana Alliance. The media reports, testimonies of individuals, documentation of their own Lessons Learned, a record of some engagements and achievements since 2016, reflections on national and regional dialogues, webinars, interactive meetings with the Steering Committee and the National coordinator.

In general terms, our approaches encompassed literature review (existing records), facilitation of participatory processes (meetings and dialogues), attendance and active presence in ongoing programmes (webinars and workshops), focused group interviews and discussions (Executives, Key Informants and Partners),

We facilitated a national seminar which was attended by representatives of the diverse stakeholders. This seminar served as a forum to validate our draft report. In addition, it helped to build consensus on some unresolved issues and challenges. In all, our approach also helped FAITH in Ghana Alliance define a road map for its future in a participatory way.



5. SUMMARIES



I. SUMMARY FROM REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS

Eight other regions (Central, Upper West, Upper East, North East, Greater Accra, Ashanti, Northern and Savanna) held dialogue meetings and brought answers to the following questions:

1. Telling our story: What makes us (FAITH in Ghana Alliance) credible?

The regional consultations suggested the under listed points.

- i. Some of the projects the group embarked on during the COVID-19 Pandemic (interacting with MMDAs and other NGOs) made the group a reputable one.
- ii. Government agencies requesting for copies of the "I SHAME Corruption Project" Manual and Report make us reputable.
- iii. Our cooperation with the NCCE during the last anti-corruption project also makes us reputable
- iv. Different religious groups being able to work together in harmony as one body.
- v. The partnership with a foreign based organization (Faith in Action International) also gives credibility to the organization.
- vi. Strict monitoring of the COVID - 19 funds to the Assemblies and the strict adherence to the COVID - 19 protocols in the Municipal and District Assemblies.
- vii. Increased sensitization of the COVID – 19 pandemic in the Regions through radio discussion and stakeholder engagement in the Region such as the Ghana Health Services (GHS), Assemblies, Regional Coordinating Council (RCC), Security Services, Environmental Health Services etc.



NATIONAL CATHOLIC SECRETARIAT (NCS)
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



CARITAS GHANA

INTERFAITH ALLIANCE PLATFORM:
FORUM FOR ACTIONS ON INCLUSION, TRANSPARENCY AND HARMONY (FAITH) IN GHANA



**Interfaith
Shaping Hearts,
Attitudes and
Mindset to End
Corruption
in Ghana**

I-SHAME CORRUPTION



A LESSONS LEARNED REPORT

With funding support from:

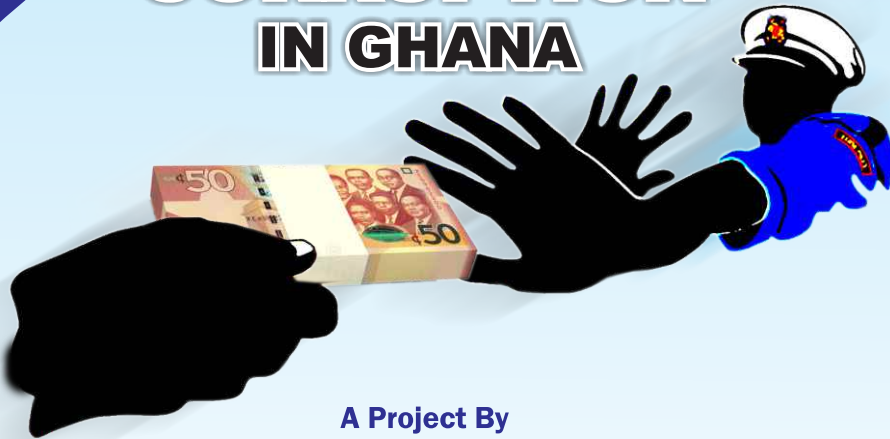


Edited by: Samuel Zan Akologo

January, 2020

**INTER-FAITH SHAPING HEARTS, ATTITUDES AND MINDSET
TO END CORRUPTION IN GHANA**

**I - SHAME
CORRUPTION
IN GHANA**



**A Project By
THE FORUM FOR ACTIONS ON INCLUSION,
TRANSPARENCY AND HARMONY (FAITH) IN GHANA ALLIANCE**

**MANUAL FOR TRAINING
BASIC SCHOOL CHILDREN ON ANTI-CORRUPTION
(INTEGRITY CLUBS)**



IN COLLABORATION WITH NCCE AND GES



NATIONAL CATHOLIC SECRETARIAT (NCS)
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



CARITAS GHANA

A LESSONS LEARNED REPORT LAUNCH

INTERFAITH ALLIANCE PLATFORM: FORUM FOR ACTIONS ON INCLUSION, TRANSPARENCY AND HARMONY (FAITH) IN GHANA



Theme:

I-SHAME CORRUPTION

CHAIRPERSON

MRS. JOSEPHINE NKURUMAH

Chairperson of National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE)

MC: MRS. DORIS ASHUN

Venue: National Catholic Secretariat Conference Room Date: Thursday 20th February, 2020 Time: 10.00am to 12.30pm

With funding support from:



THE ANTI-CORRUPTION PLEDGE

I love my country, Ghana. As a Ghanaian child, I pledge myself to be honest, disciplined and answerable in all that I do. I pledge not to be corrupt and to be content with what my parents give me and to live within my means.

I pledge myself not to cheat in examinations, sports competitions and other school activities. I also sincerely pledge myself not to ask for, or accept any favours or offer favours to my peers, teachers and other adults in return for similar favours which I do not deserve or earn.

And I pledge myself in all things to uphold and defend the good name of my Family, my School and Ghana, my Motherland.

So help me God.



AN INTER-FAITH PRAYER FOR STRENGTH TO FIGHT CORRUPTION IN GHANA

Almighty God, we pray to you to give us the strength to fight corruption and help cure the Ghanaian society of corruption. Corruption is the cause of our misuse of the vast resources that you have blessed us with. We have shown greed and lack of love for our neighbour, especially the poor in society, in the way we have misused these resources. We are sincerely sorry for this behaviour and ask for your forgiveness and necessary guidance in our efforts to eliminate this canker from our society.

Bless our leaders with clean hearts and imbue them with patriotism so that they may put the national interest ahead of their own.

AMEN

- viii. Strong network with the Regional Coordinating Council and the MMDAs
- ix. The willingness of the various religious groups to meet under the umbrella of the Interreligious dialogue centre makes the Alliance credible.
- x. The alliance is not bias based on political ideologies. The engagement was based on common religious values.
- xi. The FAITH in Ghana Alliance public engagements are based on public policy and service delivery issues.
- xii. The engagements of the alliance focused on the common good of the society.
- xiii. The Alliance focuses on the most vulnerable and support government to ensure public policy delivery favours the poor, women, children and persons with disability.
- xiv. Creation of awareness and impacting knowledge of anti-corruption using the basic schools as a tool was innovative and ground-breaking initiative that popularized our model of Faith organizing.

2. Organizing Better: How can we organize more effectively

- I. Registering the Alliance with the Registrar General's Department (Incorporation)
 - ii. Self - financing of our activities. Sustainability from within.
 - iii. Getting more visibility (taking advantage of social media)
 - iv. Develop a structured annual plan of action.
 - v. Regular monthly meetings- last Fridays of every month.
 - vi. Strengthen trust and bonding among network members
 - vii. Quarterly evaluation and reviews on project being implemented.
 - viii. Annual interregional conferences on performance evaluation with prizes attached.
- ix. Formalize operations of the Alliance through constitutions, registrations to facilitate local level fundraising.
- x. The House should not operate in vacuum. There should be a calendar of activities in accordance with the National program to

direct the affairs of the House. These could be plans for each quarter or even the entire year.

- xi. There should be clear information flow from the National level to the Regional levels.
- xii. More messages on key national and social issues from the Alliance
- xiii. Capacity building for Regional Leaders of the Network.

3. Measuring our Future Impact:

- If we are successful, what will be different?
- What improvement will:

YOU LIKE TO SEE FOR YOURSELF?

- A disciplined society that will respond and work with the tenets of the organization in dealing with issues confronting our society.
- We are objective and reflect the character of Faith-based organizations.

OTHERS LIKE TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES?

- There should be behavioral change influence in the lives of individuals which must be self-recognizing.
- To see the network, move society forward through cooperation and shared values
-

SOCIETY LIKE TO SEE?

- An enlightened and pro-active society living in harmony, that will stand up to collectively deal with issues confronting the society.
- Society should see credibility in our service through sincerity.

5. (II) SUMMARY FROM DIALOGUE MEETINGS OF LEADERS OF FAITH GROUPS

Two dialogue meetings of Leaders of Faith Groups affiliated to FAITH in Ghana Alliance were held and facilitated by the Facilitators.

The first dialogue focused on the following: Answers provided to the guiding questions are also captured below.

- a. **Telling Our Story:** What makes FAITH in Ghana Alliance credible?
- b. **Organizing Better:** How can we organize more effectively?
- c. **Measuring our Future Impact:** If we are successful, what will be different?

What makes FAITH in Ghana Alliance credible?

- a. We are credible because we successfully organized projects and Programmes, which were partnered, by the Ghana Education Service, National Commission for Civic Education., and Local Government Authorities during COVID-19.
- b. Working for the past seven years and institutionalized across the length and breadth of the country and currently in eight (8) regions.
- c. Because we are people of faith, we appeal to a very large base, and therefore, our relevance is key.
- d. The already existing achievement of fighting corruption, Human Trafficking, Political Vigilantism etc.
- e. FAITH in Ghana Alliance is broad-based and present throughout the country.
- f. The common purpose and goals have brought us together regardless of the diversity

How can we organize more effectively?

- a. Using technology to be more visible on the social media landscape.
- b. Well-established Secretariat to have an interface with the world. This would enable our social media presence.
- c. Facilitating the top echelon of the Religious Groups and their Leaders to be visible to drive the agenda of FAITH in Ghana Alliance. We must allow them space to "own the Alliance" by their active involvement.
- d. Governing Board or Trustees should be formed involving the top leadership of the religious groups.
- e. We have to approve the recommendation of being registered officially

- before looking at the nature of governing body, technical capacity, etc.
- f. Visibility and acceptability through the media.
 - g. Do more advocacy on relevant national issues.
 - h. A plan of where we want to go is identified to satisfy our achievement.
 - i. Strengthen the Regional Branches as the mouthpiece of the parent group at the national level.

Q3) If we are successful, what will be different?

- a. To get the organization registered, get a legal structure to be able to interact with the public.
- b. Using social media to work together with other networks of Faith Groups.
- c. We have to commit ourselves to provide funding for the running of the Secretariat.
- d. More significant credibility and acceptability in all social and national issues.
- e. Behavioral change based on the influence of faith
- f. Total societal transformation, once the individual is changed.

The second Dialogue Meeting of Leaders of Faith Groups affiliated to the Multifaith Network, FAITH in Ghana Alliance also had productive reflections around the following:



- The Leaders present reaffirmed their expectations for the Multifaith Network as serving an important need, finding ways to consolidate the Network, making it more widely known and visible, promoting social cohesion, restoring hope in faith organizing after some past failures, and promote sustained capacity building for Leaders of Faith Groups to take timely actions for the common good.
- The Leaders also confirmed their appreciation of the Network as a Partnership arrangement since 2016. However, more needs to be done to express this in a formal document which expresses commitments and responsibilities of the members. It was emphasized that mutual respect, equal participation and shared values were important to strengthen the Partnership.
- The Leaders also endorsed the areas identified in the roll-up banner as providing the framework for a Roadmap for an Action Programme. It was suggested that, the National Stakeholders Seminar on 27th April, 2022 should be used to seek the opinion of the Faith Leaders on the identity of FAITH in Ghana Alliance. If registration becomes necessary, what form should it take? Also, the Roadmap of the suggested Action Programmes should be discussed.

5. (III) Summary from Other Processes (Virtual Webinars and Media Reports, Etc.)

I. Human Trafficking Webinar: Speakers at the Human Trafficking webinar have stressed on the need for close collaboration of government, religious bodies, civil society and all well-meaning Ghanaians to stem the scourge of human trafficking in the country.

The Webinar on the theme ***Religious Leaders in Ghana organising for Faith and Practical Responses to the Scourge of Human Trafficking*** was organised by the **Faith in Ghana Alliance**.

- ii. Promoting Youth Entrepreneurship and Skills Development to halt a looming socioeconomic crisis! A call for Faith Leaders to lend a hand. **Webinar** held on Tuesday, 15TH March, 2022.

The webinar on the above theme sought to enhance the collaboration between diverse Faith Groups and the Government in addressing an emerging social problem of youth unemployment. Key outcomes were as follows: (Detailed Report of Webinar is available)

- key conclusions as the need for more stakeholder engagement to help the population understand and to take advantage of the Government initiatives.
- Also, that Faith Groups should find creative ways of supporting their Youth to develop their skills and be self-employed. Such measures could include mentoring, business incubation and redeploy their resources as venture capital for enterprising youth.
- Meanwhile, the Multifaith Network, FAITH in Ghana Alliance was encouraged to do further follow up programmes on this theme.

“ FAITH in Ghana Alliance ” LIVE WEBCAST

THEME:
PROMOTING YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT TO HALT A LOOMING SOCIOECONOMIC CRISES!
A CALL FOR FAITH LEADERS TO LEND A HAND

Date: Tuesday, 15th March, 2022 Time: 2.00pm - 4.00pm

HOST, SPEAKERS & MODERATOR

- Ms. Eva Soebla Momo (Chairperson, Finance Technical Working Group, Ghana)
- Rev. Fr. Dr. Peter Oppong-Kum (Catholic Priest & Leader)
- Dr. (Mrs.) Aileen Hagan (Lecturer, Lagos State College)
- Mr. Samuel Zee Akeliga, PhD (Coordinator, FAITH)

YOUTH RESPONDENTS

- John Paul Sumangyeng Forster (Young Entrepreneur)
- Mary Celia Dandamga Adu (Young Entrepreneur)

FUNDING PARTNER

- FAITH IN ACTION (INTERNATIONAL)
- Muslim Relief and Development Services
- FOMWAG
- ISRAELITE MUSLIM MISSION, GHANA
- ANNA PERPETUAL AND COMMERCIAL COLLEGE
- BY THE PEOPLE FOR THE PEOPLE (BPP)
- THE CHURCH OF THE SOUTH
- THE CHURCH OF THE NORTH
- THE CHURCH OF THE SOUTH
- CARITAS GHANA

FAITH in Ghana Alliance Members



Participants at the National Seminar

5. (IV) Summary of NATIONAL SEMINAR

The Seminar, attended by representatives of member bodies, regional-based multi-faith networks which are affiliated to the National Network, and representatives of Faith in Action International – US and Rwanda, was held at the Assemblies of God Church Headquarters at Osu in Accra on 26 - 28 April, 2022.

Reorganizing and working together; especially at the National Seminar, there was general consensus on the need to REGISTER the FAITH in Ghana Alliance as a Legal Entity!

The need to put in place a management structure to control the activities of the Alliance and to have a written constitution to guide its smooth operation, to foster recognition, respect and harmony especially among member bodies.

There were CAVEATS about ensuring that the existing partnership is strengthened so that registration does not lead to disenchantment and falling out! It was agreed that, the focus of next Six-month (July to December, 2022) must address both National-level needs and CONSOLIDATING Regional level FAITH organizing! Clarion call was that FAITH in Ghana Alliance has come to stay and must not allow any current challenges to detract our efforts! Faith in Action International committed to a long-term partnership with FAITH in Ghana Alliance with a pledge of another USD50,000 for the next Six-month operational phase. It has become necessary for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be established between Faith in Ghana Alliance and Caritas Ghana to continue to play their "SURROGATE MOTHER" role (receive and disburse funds for FAITH in Ghana Alliance) for the next six-month period. There is the need to explore other alternatives for support services to the Regions; especially ALL five Regions in Northern Ghana already covered.

The representatives of Faith in Action International from the United States of America, Rev. Juard Barnes and Gordon Whitman, who shared their thoughts on the work of Faith in Ghana Alliance commended the multi-faith groups for coming together to promote inclusion, transparency and harmony in the Ghanaian society. They encouraged them to stay together and build stronger bonds and regional alliances. The two stressed the need to pay particular attention especially to the vulnerable and those at the grassroots, "rope them in and empower them to contribute to a change in national development".



SAVANNAH REGION FAITH IN GHANA ALLIANCE





UPPER WEST FAITH IN GHANA ALLIANCE



CENTRAL REGION FAITH IN GHANA ALLIANCE



6. FINDINGS AND KEY CONCLUSIONS



Our association and interactions before, during and after the various meetings with the Coordinator, Steering Committee and the two dialogue meetings with Leaders of Faith Groups have brought out the following key findings;

- i. The Alliance has built a credible reputation for the implementation of multifaith actions in Ghana
- ii. That all the partners are still in favour of and committed to the Unity of purpose expressed through the Alliance
- iii. The unity among the Members of the National Steering Committee members is remarkable
- iv. The partners find relevance and fulfilment in their involvement and what they are doing through the Alliance.
- v. The Leaders of the Faith Groups who attended the two Dialogue meeting expressed their preference for a partnership approach with an enhanced Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that has deeper commitments and enhanced relationships.
- vi. The consultations at the regional levels showed that there was overwhelming preference for an independent Legal entity to be achieved through registration (incorporation) of FAITH in Ghana Alliance.
- vii. The sustainability of the Alliance depends on a shared Programme of work or a Strategic Plan covering a period of three to five years.



7. CHALLENGES AND LEARNINGS



Some challenges were also generally noted or emerged in the course of work with the key actors. Notable ones are the following:

- The recent history of unsuccessful attempts at interfaith organizing in Ghana was commonly referred to with fears that FAITH in Ghana Alliance might suffer a similar fate.
- Leaders of the Faith Groups affiliated to the Alliance need to do more to demonstrate their shared values and mutual respect for one another to avoid some suspicions that other Member Bodies may be taking more of the benefits of the cooperation than others.
- There does not seem to be a common understanding of what “ownership” of the Alliance by Religious leaders mean. Whereas many have talked about equal participation of the members, others are also suggesting administrative and management control. The proposed partnership agreement should help resolve this issue.
- Direct Contracting with Partners and receipt of funds by the Alliance remains a challenge. In the current arrangements, only a member with proper legal identity and robust systems can receive funds for FAITH in Ghana Alliance. How can this practice be consolidated with proper checks and balances or completely changed to a new model?
- The reorganizing process supported by Faith in Action International was useful in creating opportunities for self appraisal, sharing information about the nature of faith reorganizing in Ghana and also unearthing existing and new challenges. These are all useful information for the future sustainability of the Alliance.



8. KEY RECOMMENDATIONS



The vision and mission of Faith in Ghana Alliance is very commendable yet we believe much more can be done if the following recommendations are considered;

- I. The Alliance to be constituted and registered as a recognized body in Ghana
- ii. A written constitution to guide the existence and smooth operation to foster recognition, respect and harmony
- iii. To secure sustainable funding and partnerships.
- iv. Proper definition of ownership to allow greater buy-in to the cause.
- v. Have an extended six-month period (July – December) to deal with some of the challenges and learnings identified as a precondition for a longer-term partnership framework.
- vi. The secretariat responsibilities offered by Caritas Ghana during this nurturing period has been very supportive to the entire Alliance, the part-time National Coordinator and the Resource Persons (Facilitators). We recommend that the National Steering Committee, the National Coordinator and Faith in Action International engages the leadership of Caritas Ghana to agree on a framework for their continuous services; especially for the next six-month period.
- vii. We also recommend that it will be helpful for the Facilitators to be maintained to help FAITH in Ghana Alliance navigate the way forward smoothly.



9. IDENTITY OF MEMBERS



**Marshallan Relief and
Development Services**



AHMADIYYA MUSLIM MISSION, GHANA

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

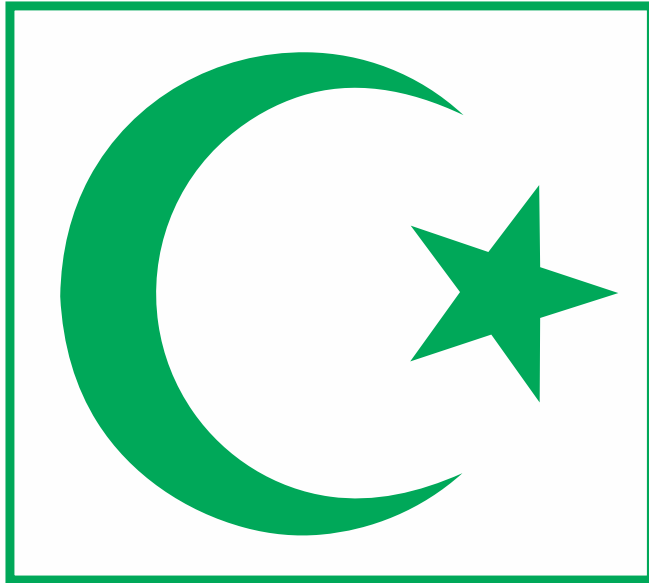
In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Ever Merciful

**GHANA PENTECOSTAL
AND CHARISMATIC COUNCIL**



That they all may be one

**OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL
CHIEF IMAM (ONCI)**



**NATIONAL CATHOLIC SECRETARIAT
GHANA CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE**





CARITAS GHANA

