

E-NEWSLETTER

Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection



MAY EDITION

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This edition of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection highlights key programs.

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MINISTER ENGAGES MASTERCARD FOUNDATION ON EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVES



A delegation from the Mastercard Foundation, led by Ghana's Country Director, Madam Rica Rwigamba, paid a courtesy call on the Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey, to discuss areas of strategic collaboration and strengthen existing ties.

The Mastercard Foundation is a global organization with a strong presence in Ghana, committed to creating opportunities for young people, particularly women, through education, skills training, and entrepreneurship support. Its initiatives focus on reducing poverty, promoting financial inclusion, and empowering the next generation of African leaders.

Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey pledged the Ministry's full commitment to deepening collaboration with the Mastercard Foundation to implement targeted entrepreneurial and livelihood initiatives that improve the lives of young people, women, and persons with disabilities across Ghana.



GENDER MINISTRY, IOM, DEEPEN PARTNERSHIP TO TACKLE HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND GENDER INEQUALITY



The Chief of Mission for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Ghana, Madam Fatou Diallo Ndiaye, has led a delegation to pay a courtesy call on the Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey.

The visit was to officially congratulate the Minister on her appointment and to rekindle the strong partnership between the Ministry and IOM.

Discussions focused on strengthening collaboration in areas of mutual interest, particularly in the fight against human trafficking, child protection, and the promotion of gender equality.

The conversation also highlighted the growing concern of trafficking in sports, with a commitment to collaborate with the Ministry of Sports and Recreation to tackle the issue from the grassroots.

The meeting ended with both parties expressing a strong commitment to deepening cooperation to safeguard the rights and dignity of all, especially the most vulnerable.



GENDER MINISTER CHAMPIONS WOMEN'S ROLE IN PEACE BUILDING AT HIGH-LEVEL FORUM

The Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey, has reaffirmed Ghana's commitment to promoting women's active involvement in conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts.

She made this known during her participation in the Conflict Prevention and Sustainable Peace Forum, held under the theme “Amplifying Women's Voices in Democratic and Political Transitions” at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre.

The high-level forum, supported by the Australian Government in partnership with WANEP and WADEMOS, brought together key stakeholders to explore how women's voices and leadership can be effectively harnessed to foster peace and democratic resilience.

The forum provided a valuable platform to share best practices, review existing policies, and strengthen collaborations aimed at advancing gender equality in political transitions and conflict contexts.



MINISTER FOR GENDER WELCOMES DELEGATION FROM WOMEN IN PEACE AND SECURITY GHANA

The Convener for Women in Peace and Security (WPS) in Ghana, Mrs. Theodora Williams-Anti, has led a delegation to pay a courtesy call on the Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey, to discuss ongoing efforts and strategic collaboration towards the advancement of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in Ghana. Women in Peace and Security Ghana operates under the broader umbrella of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), which plays a pivotal role in promoting conflict prevention, democratic governance, and gender-inclusive peacebuilding across the subregion.

In line with the Government of Ghana's ongoing commitment to gender equality and inclusive peace, the Ministry continues to champion the implementation of GHANAP II (2020–2025), supporting women's active participation in peacebuilding, protection of rights, and post-conflict recovery.

Both parties held extensive discussions on the impact of conflict on women and children, and the need to strengthen protection mechanisms in conflict-prone areas.



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GENDER MINISTER PARTICIPATES IN WOMEN IN SUSTAINABILITY AFRICA SUMMIT

The Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey, has reaffirmed Ghana's commitment to gender equality and sustainable development during her participation in the inaugural Women in Sustainability Africa (WiSA) Summit held under the theme: "The Role of Women as a Source of Labour and Agents of Sustainability."



The high-level summit brought together policymakers, development partners, and gender advocates to highlight the vital role women play in advancing sustainability efforts across Africa.



Discussions centered on promoting inclusive policies and strategic programmes that empower women as key actors in sustainable development.



Speaking at the event, the Minister highlighted that the Ministry is collaborating with the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ensure that Ghana's National Adaptation Plan incorporates gender-responsive strategies to address climate change impacts on women and marginalized groups.





AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR ENGAGES GENDER MINISTER ON STRENGTHENING BILATERAL COOPERATION



The Australian Ambassador to Ghana, H.E. Berenice Owen-Jones, has paid a working visit to the Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey, to explore areas of collaboration and strengthen bilateral relations, particularly in advancing gender and social development.

Discussions during the meeting focused on key priority areas including the promotion of gender equality, women's participation in peace and security, child protection, and addressing the issue of children living and working on the streets, as well as sexual harassment involving children.

The Australian Ambassador commended Ghana for its leadership in promoting gender equality, especially the recent passage of the Affirmative Action Act, describing it as a significant milestone in advancing women's rights and representation.

Providing updates on the implementation of the Affirmative Action Act, the Minister revealed that a Gender Equity Committee will soon be established to oversee the implementation of the Act and to raise awareness of its provisions.

FAITH-BASED ORGANISATION SEEKS PARTNERSHIP TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE GROUPS



A delegation from the Bible Baptist Church has expressed its interest in partnering with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection to offer free skills training opportunities to vulnerable groups, particularly women and youth.

During a courtesy call on the Minister, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey, the delegation shared the Church's commitment to national development through community outreach and empowerment initiatives.



Bible Baptist Church aims to use skills development as a tool to promote self-reliance, reduce poverty, and support government efforts in enhancing social protection.



The Minister welcomed the initiative and commended the Church for its dedication to uplifting the less privileged. She noted that partnerships of this nature are vital in achieving the Ministry's broader goal of ensuring inclusivity and reducing vulnerability across all sectors of society.



UNESCO DELEGATION PAYS COURTESY CALL ON GENDER MINISTER TO DEEPEN COLLABORATION ON EDUCATION, GENDER EQUALITY, AND EMPOWERMENT.

The Head of Office and Representative of UNESCO to Ghana, Mr. Edmond Moukala, led a delegation to pay a courtesy call on the Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey, to explore strategic areas of collaboration aimed at advancing inclusive education, gender equality, and youth empowerment.

The discussions focused on promoting educational opportunities for young mothers, empowering them to return to school, and addressing the persistent stigma that limits their ability to thrive.



Both parties recognized the importance of inclusive policies and interventions that allow young mothers to pursue their education without discrimination.

The engagement further highlighted the need to promote girls' participation in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and support women in the media space, thereby opening doors for leadership and representation in key sectors.

MINISTER FOR GENDER CALLS FOR END TO MENSTRUAL STIGMA AND CHILD ABUSE

The Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Larrey, has reaffirmed government's commitment to menstrual hygiene, child protection, and youth empowerment during the Menstrual Hygiene and Sexual Abuse Talk organized by Touching the Lives of Girls Foundation International on Friday, 23rd May 2025, in Accra.

Speaking on the theme "Breaking the Silence," the Minister emphasized that menstruation is a natural biological process and must not be treated with shame or stigma.

She highlighted efforts by the Ministry and its partners including UNICEF and the Ghana Education Service to improve menstrual hygiene management and commended the recent launch of the National Sanitary Pad Distribution Program for two million schoolgirls.

The event brought together traditional leaders, health professionals, government officials, and influencers to champion the rights and dignity of girls across Ghana.



MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY MARKED WITH FOCUS ON BREAKING CULTURAL BARRIERS



In commemoration of World Menstrual Hygiene Day 2025, a documentary was screened under the auspices of the Office of the Vice President, in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, the British High Commission, UNFPA, and other development partners. The event aimed to spotlight the cultural and social barriers that prevent girls from managing their menstruation with dignity.

The documentary, titled “Barred by Blood: The Cultural Chains Holding Back Girls in Kyekyewere,” exposes the cultural myths and discriminatory practices that continue to affect girls' education, freedom, and self-worth—particularly in rural communities.

Held in Accra, the screening brought together traditional and religious leaders, civil society organizations, development partners, government officials, and the media. It created a platform for honest dialogue and a renewed commitment to ending period poverty and menstrual-related discrimination.



VALIDATION MEETING OF REVISED POLICIES

The Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate (PPMED), under the auspices of the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection, convened a meeting with several key stakeholders to validate the revised National Gender Policy and the Early Childhood Care & Development (ECCD) Policy.

The purpose of the meeting was to objectively assess the revised policies, suggest changes to fulfill the intended needs and requirements, and ensure that the policies receive Cabinet approval.

In her remarks, the Minister for Gender, Children, and Social Protection - MoGCSP, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey, announced a review of policies to address disparities in gender equality and improve early childhood services. This move aims to promote equity, inclusion, and social transformation, and was discussed with development partners, civil society organizations, and stakeholders.



JUNIOR SHAPERS AFRICA PAYS COURTESY CALL ON GENDER MINISTER

As part of activities to commemorate this year's World Day of the Boy Child, Junior Shapers Africa - JSA Boys Mentorship, led by its Founding Director, Mrs. Ethel Adjorlolo-Marfo, paid a courtesy call on the Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey, ahead of the official celebration slated for Friday, 16th May 2025.

The meeting created a platform for selected boys and their teachers to engage the Minister on key issues affecting boys' development in Ghana. Discussions centered on raising awareness of boys' challenges, bridging educational gaps, addressing school drop-out rates, strengthening support systems for boys, and promoting positive masculinity.



The selected boys from Christ The King International School, Mary Mother of Good Counsel School, and Soul Clinic International School, had an interactive discussion with the Minister during which they emphasized the need for equal access to support systems for boys: the importance of giving boys the same attention and care as girls, and the need to encourage positive masculinity.

Present at the meeting were the Chief Director of the Ministry, Dr. Afisah Zakariah, and the Director of the Department of Gender, Madam Faustina Acheampong, who both reaffirmed the Ministry's support for such meaningful engagements.

AFRICAN WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION SEEKS COLLABORATION WITH GENDER MINISTRY

A delegation from the African Women Lawyers Association (AWLA), led by its Chairperson, Madam Christine Larrey, has paid a courtesy call on the Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Larrey.

The visit aimed to formally introduce the Association to the new Minister and explore possible areas of collaboration to promote gender equality and women's rights.

Discussions during the meeting focused on several critical issues, including the need to ensure that laws passed in Ghana are gender-responsive and inclusive. The delegation also raised concerns about the increasing use of social media to harass individuals, particularly women, and emphasized the urgent need to address this growing form of digital abuse.

One key issue raised was that of surrogacy—specifically, the need to develop a policy to streamline or guide its practice in the short term, ahead of a comprehensive legal framework for long-term regulation.

The Minister reiterated government's commitment to promoting gender equity and ensuring that all Ghanaians, especially vulnerable women and children, are protected under the law. She also pledged the Ministry's readiness to deepen stakeholder engagement for sustained impact.



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SOCIAL WORKERS ASSOCIATION OF GHANA PAYS COURTESY CALL ON GENDER MINISTER

The National President of the Social Workers Association of Ghana (SWAG), Mr. Divine Arnold Exorgbe, led a delegation to pay a courtesy call on the Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey, to congratulate her on her appointment.



The visit also served as an opportunity to explore areas of potential collaboration between the Association and the Ministry in strengthening social protection systems across the country.

During the discussions, Mr. Exorgbe strongly advocated for the passage of the Professional Social Work Bill which would facilitate the licensing of professional social workers, regulate their practice, and help eliminate unqualified practitioners from the field.



Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey reiterated the Ministry's openness for possible collaborations and underscored the importance of professionalizing social work to improve the quality of care and support services across the country.



TEERING COMMITTEE OF THE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION BILL COALITION VISIT MINISTER FOR GENDER.

The Steering Committee of Affirmative Action Bill Coalition, led by its Convener, Sheila Minkah-Premo paid a courtesy call on the Minister for Gender, Children, and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Larrey, to discuss the proposed implementation plan for the Affirmative Action Act of Ghana.

During the meeting, the Coalition expressed appreciation for the passage of the Affirmative Action (Gender Equity) Act by Parliament on July 30, 2024, and its subsequent assent into law on September 19, 2024.

They emphasized the Act's significance in promoting gender equality and increasing women's representation in decision-making roles.

The Act mandates a minimum 30% representation of women in key governance structures, with a progressive target of 50% by 2030. It also requires both the public and private sectors to adopt gender-responsive policies to address existing disparities.

Both parties agreed to work together in advancing gender equality, increasing women's participation in leadership, and promoting inclusivity in governance and development.

The meeting reinforced the shared commitment between Coalition and the Ministry to ensuring that the Affirmative Action Act is fully implemented to achieve its intended impact.



GHANA MARKS 2025 WTIS DAY



As part of efforts to promote responsible digital engagement and online safety, the Ministry of Communications, Digital Technology and Innovations organized the 2025 World Telecommunication and Information Society (WTIS) Day on 19th May 2025.

The WTIS Day, celebrated annually, highlights the importance of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in driving socio-economic development.

The 2025 celebration also marked 160 years of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), under the global theme “Gender Equality in Digital Transformation.”

The event aimed to raise awareness on the need for inclusive digital policies and the promotion of gender equality in the digital space, particularly for women, girls, and vulnerable groups.

This resonated strongly with Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Gender Equality), which calls for equal rights and opportunities for all, especially in emerging digital environments.

The Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey, joined the celebration to underscore the Ministry's commitment to protecting children and vulnerable populations in the digital space.



PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON GENDER, CHILDREN AND SOCIAL WELFARE VISITS GENDER MINISTRY



The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Gender, Children and Social Welfare, led by its Chairperson, Madam Helen Adjoa Ntoso, has paid a courtesy call to the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection to brief the Minister on their three-day monitoring tour in the Greater Accra Region.

During the meeting, Madam Ntoso stated that the purpose of the tour is to assess the conditions and standards of care in shelters and residential homes.

The delegation engaged the Ministry in discussions on key government social intervention programmes such as the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) and the Ghana School Feeding Programme. They further deliberated the importance of inter-agency collaboration to ensure the effective delivery of social protection services.

The Minister for Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey reiterated President John Dramani Mahama's commitment to constructing shelters in all 16 regions to provide care and protection for victims of sexual and gender-based violence.



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK HOSTS GRADUATION CEREMONY AND LAUNCHES DIPLOMA PROGRAM

On Friday, 23rd May 2025, the School of Social Work, under the auspices of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, hosted a graduation ceremony for its third batch of students and officially launched the Diploma in Social Work program.

The ceremony saw the graduation of 60 students. Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey, Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, announced that the Government of Ghana, led by President John Dramani Mahama, will expand social services, recruit and train social workers nationwide effectively.

She congratulated the graduates for choosing to dedicate their lives to serving the vulnerable, standing up for justice, and holding together the social fabric of the country. UNICEF through the country representative, Mr. Fiachra McAsey reaffirmed support for the School of Social Work and extended congratulatory messages to the graduates.

The launch of the Diploma in Social Work program marked a significant milestone in Ghana's efforts to strengthen its social service workforce. The program is expected to produce professionals capable of responding to the complex needs of vulnerable populations in the country.

At the end of the ceremony, the graduates were awarded their certificates.



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WOMEN IN COLOUR 2025 GRADUATES 18 GIRLS IN PAINTING

A total of 18 underprivileged girls have successfully completed a skills development programme in painting, under the “Women in Colour 2025” campaign—a transformative initiative aimed at empowering young women through vocational training in a male-dominated industry.



The initiative - launched through a partnership between the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, the M&K Ghana Limited and the Nneka Foundation - is part of ongoing efforts to promote gender equality and economic empowerment. It also aligns with the objectives of Ghana's Affirmative Action (Gender Equity) Act, 2024 which supports women's equal participation in decision making.

The one-month programme provided the beneficiaries with both theoretical and practical training, including an intensive internship experience.



At the end of the training, the graduates were presented with painting kits to serve as start-up resources as they begin their careers. Held under the theme “Breaking Barriers: Empowering Women through Skills Development,” the event signaled a growing movement to open up non-traditional career paths for women and create lasting opportunities for self-reliance.



Training of Trainers workshop on Gender Action Learning System (GALS) methodology

In a vibrant step towards promoting gender equality and inclusive community development, the Department of Gender under the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection has successfully organized a two-day Training of Trainers workshop on Gender Action Learning System (GALS) methodology.

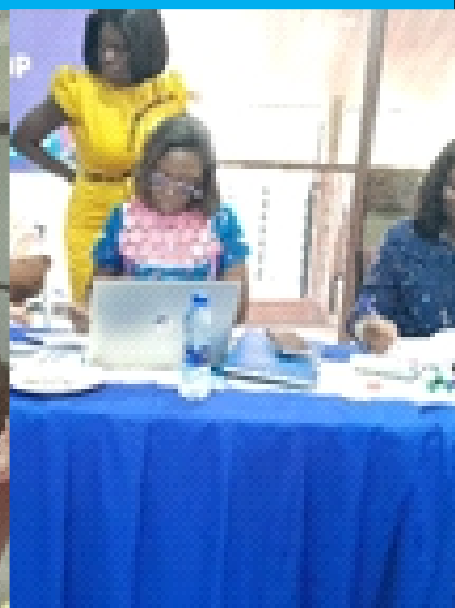
Held from Tuesday 27th to Wednesday 28th May 2025, in the Eastern Region, the capacity-building aimed to introduce the officers to the principles of the GALS methodology for effective integration into community-level activities to promote Gender Equality and improve the livelihood and nutrition of the vulnerable groups.

Speaking at the training on behalf of the Director for the Department of Gender, Madam Faustina Acheampong, the Deputy Director Madam Vera Karikari highlighted the Ministry's commitment to integrating gender-responsive tools in national development.



She charged the officers to bring their knowledge and expertise on board to achieve the set goals effectively.

The Gender Action Learning System (GALS) is a community-led empowerment methodology developed to address gender inequalities through visual tools that enable individual and collective planning, analysis, and action.



MoGCSP STAFF EMPOWERED ON RETIREMENT PLANNING

PenTrust limited has developed a specific initiative named “She Retires”. This initiative is designed to support working women to prepare for financial independence and a secured retirement.

As part of the efforts to boost staff capacity building on pension plan, the Human Resource Management Department of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection in collaboration with PenTrust limited has organized a one-day training on the “She Retires” initiative, a retirement plan specifically for female officers on Thursday 22nd May 2025, in Accra.

The workshop was to address the unique challenges women face in pension planning and to offer practical solutions to bridge the retirement income gap.

The engaging session, which was led Madam Victoria Aligboh, the CEO of PenTrust, covered three critical topics which were the role of women in society, the financial status of women and the retirement status of women. All in alignment with the initiative's objectives.

MoGCSP staff were encouraged the female staff to invest in their future by signing up for the "She Retires" policy, providing a safety net for their golden years.





MINISTRY OF GENDER, CHILDREN AND SOCIAL PROTECTION



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