

SOCIAL WORKERS ASSOCIATION OF GHANA

MOTTO: SOCIAL WORKERS, HUMAN DIGNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

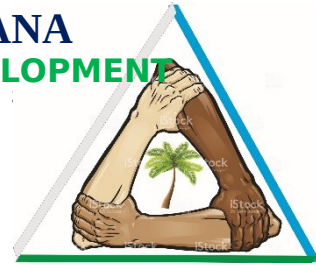
P. O. BOX 6436, ADUM-KUMASI

Email: swag2017april@gmail.com , Website: <http://swaghana.org>

Swag2019swag@gmail.com , Twitter: [@swag2019swag@gmail.com](https://twitter.com/swag2019swag)

Facebook: Social Workers Association of Ghana - SWAG

Tel: 0543281020 / 0242185409



OUR REF NO: swag/mmdas/022/01

YOUR REF NO:

BANKERS: GCB Bank Limited- Accra.

DATE: 20/10/2023

PRESS RELEASE:

PRESS STATEMENT*

BY: SOCIAL WORKERS ASSOCIATION OF GHANA (SWAG).

ISSUED DATE: 17TH OCTOBER, 2023.

The Executives of Social Workers Association of Ghana (SWAG) was shocked, and deeply saddened to hear news of the floods in the Volta Region. The socio- economic implication of the fate of the babies, pregnant persons, aged, lactating mothers, chronically ill persons, disable, and so on as a result of this tragedy will take years to recover. As national Association focuses on social protection issues confront us, it is our civic duty to draw attention to authorities and institutions during these crucial times that confront the affected communities.

The executives of SWAG express our appreciation to state institutions, private organizations, individuals and communities, that are doing their best to support the affected victims as a result of the spillage, submerged along the Volta River catchment areas.

We however believe that if prudent measures had been taken earlier, full –scale spillage of the Dam could have been avoided.

We recommend the following to be taken into account in future decision-making processes if Ghana may go through a spillage process:

1. That, communities, that are the main key stakeholders should be properly engaged ahead of time.
2. Massive awareness should be created in respect of a looming spillage.
3. Fast and Early measures of evacuation in terms of relocating people to higher habitable grounds should done timely before the spillage.
4. Effective coordination plan between the VRA, National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO), Social Workers, Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection, Health ministry, the communities and Local Government Service is very necessary.

Even as Social Workers Association of Ghana (SWAG) is in preparation to deploy members to assist in the psychological well-being of the victims, we wish to appeal to the government to do everything possible to alleviate the plight of the suffering masses in the affected areas. Social Workers within these communities are going through difficult times but are committed to helping in addressing the social and emotional needs of the victims. We take this opportunity to say ayekoo to all the people supporting the victims in the spillage catchment areas.

Furthermore, we wish to appeal to other non-governmental organizations, companies, philanthropies, and the general public to also mobilize logistics to assist the victims.

Looking at the large number of areas covered by the spillage water and the thousands of people affected, SWAG is proposing to the Government to take into consideration to declare the affected zones as a "State of Emergency" as a matter of saving lives, properties, heritages and socio-economic activities.

Again, there should be a well packaged financial support, or other livelihood support to cushion all the affected persons base on need assessment..

Last but not the list, we suggest the government takes advantage to reengineer the the reservoir system to harvest the spillage water for agriculture purposes, domestic and other usages by the state as well. May the good Lord continue to strengthen all victims in this trying moment.

,.....
Mr. Exorgbe A. K. Divine
National President

,.....
Dr. Innocent Adamadu
Livelihood Programme Officer.
0243459784

,.....,
Stephen Atta-Gyemfi
National Co-ordinator

,.....
Madam Angelina Nagratey
National Foreign Affair Director.

,.....
Mr. Daniel Denison
Public Relations Officer