PIAC ACTIVITY REPORT

11.0 Background

In line with its mandate, the Committee undertakes programmes and activities throughout the year. This chapter gives an overview of PIAC's programmes and activities in 2022, and presents feedback from public engagements of the Committee.

11.1 Activities

11.1.1 Training for Members and Secretariat Staff

The Committee on a regular basis provides members and staff with requisite skills and training to enable them perform their functions efficiently. In line with this, the Committee held a training workshop for Members and Staff in Accra from Thursday, 18th to Friday, 19th February, 2022.

The training programme consisted of four sessions that treated the following topics:

- 1. An overview of the Petroleum (Exploration and Production) Act, 2016 (Act 919).
- 2. An overview of the Petroleum Revenue Management Act, 2011 (Act 815) as amended and its Regulations (L.I. 2381).
- 3. Country Examples of Natural Resource Management.
- 4. Energy Transition Potential Impact on Petroleum Revenue Management in Ghana.

Each topic was followed by an open forum with questions and answers.

11.1.2 Launch of Assessment Report on 10 Years of Petroleum Revenue Management

As part of activities marking the 10th anniversary of PIAC in 2021, an assessment of 10 years of petroleum revenue management in Ghana was commissioned by the Committee. The study was funded by the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) of Switzerland through the Governance for Inclusive Development programme (GovID) of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

The final report was launched on Tuesday, 1st March, 2022 in Accra, and supported by GIZ. Participants included representatives from reporting institutions, some stakeholders, the media, and members of PIAC. The launch was carried live on PIAC's Facebook Page.

Some key findings from the Report were:

- Ghana's three producing fields peaked in 2019. This peak is forecast to last for at least three years, after which production will continuously decline if no new in-fill developments on these existing fields or new fields come on-stream.
- 2 ABFA has been a critical financing source for the national budget. While total benchmark revenue allocations to the ABFA amounted to GH ¢ 9.41 billion (US\$2.61 billion), disbursements on the other hand, amounted to GH ¢ 8.51 billion (US\$2.28 billion), leaving the balance being swept into the Consolidated Fund under the government's Treasury Single Account (TSA) policy.
- It was found that 74% of the withdrawals from the GSF has been used for debt repayment, while 21% was allocated to the Contingency Fund to deal with national emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Interestingly, only 4% has been utilised to shore up ABFA shortfalls.
- 4 PIAC would need to deepen its advocacy to reach other critical voices and stakeholder groups using new media collaborations and channels.

The report also recommended the following to address some of the issues raised:

- There is a strong imperative to provide the GRA and other institutions such as the PC, IAC and MoF with all the requisite human resources and tools to undertake their critical mandate of petroleum revenue management more effectively and efficiently.
- 2 Amend the PRMA to provide a legal requirement for enhanced transparency and effective accountability for unutilised ABFA balances. Where applicable, create an ABFA fund to ensure unutilised amounts are reverted to that Fund.



11.1.3 Public Lecture

Following the launch of the Assessment Report, the Committee organised a public lecture to deepen public education on the content of the report. The lecture was held on Wednesday, 23rd March, 2022 at the Cedi Conference Centre in the University of Ghana, Accra. The event was carried live on Joy FM and on PIAC's Facebook Page. Chaired by Major Daniel Ablorh-Quarcoo (Rtd), a former Chairman of PIAC, the programme had in attendance representatives from key stakeholders, including reporting institutions, representatives of PIAC constituent bodies, past Members of PIAC, civil society, students, and the media.

Dr Theophilus Acheampong, Lead Consultant for the 10-year assessment on petroleum revenue management, delivered the lecture based on the study that was conducted. The lecture focused on the four thematic areas of the Report, which align with the extractives industry value chain, - Petroleum production, sales and revenue collection; Revenue allocation, distribution and utilisation; Management of the Ghana Petroleum Funds (GPFs); and an institutional assessment of petroleum revenue management. The high-level findings and recommendations from the study were also presented.

The lecture was followed by a panel discussion which centered on the use of the ABFA, the expenditures of GNPC, and whether the Ghana Heritage Fund should be accessible by the current generation.





11.1.4 Launch of the 2021 Annual Report

PIAC is mandated to publish two statutory Reports (Semi-annual and Annual) each year. In that regard, the Committee launched the 2021 Annual Report on 13th April, 2022 in Accra. The launch, which was chaired by Mrs. Angela Peasah, a past member of the Committee, was attended by stakeholders, including reporting institutions and the media. The launch was also carried live on PIAC's Facebook Page. The highlights, which included crude oil and gas production for the year 2021, revenues accrued, distribution and utilisation of the petroleum revenues, and findings and recommendations, were presented by the PIAC Chairman, Prof. Kwame Adom-Frimpong.



11.1.5 Engagement with IFEJ and other Media Partners

As part of its engagement with stakeholders, the Committee holds regular meetings with the media, comprising members of the Institute of Financial and Economic Journalists (IFEJ) and key media partners who report on PIAC activities. The Committee held two of such activities during the year.

The first was held from 6th – 8th May, 2022 at Tegbi in the Volta Region. The engagement focused on providing a platform for members of IFEJ, selected members of the Parliamentary Press Corps and other media partners to be apprised of the highlights of the 2021 PIAC Annual Report, and the Committee's assessment Report on 10 years of petroleum revenue management in Ghana. Some of the key issues raised were the flaring of gas on the three producing fields, the inadequate activity in the upstream petroleum sector and the decline in crude oil production since 2020.

The second activity, which took place from 4th – 6th November, 2022 focused on providing a platform for the media partners to familiarise themselves with PIAC's 2022 Semi-Annual Report. The activity was held in Koforidua in the Eastern Region and was supported by the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) of Switzerland through the Governance for Inclusive Development programme (GovID) of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. The activity also provided the opportunity for participants to engage in a data dive on the report to tease out issues worth discussing. To also build the capacity of the journalists, a session was introduced on extractive sector reporting and writing.



11.1.6 Engagement with Editors

With the support of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) of Switzerland through the Governance for Inclusive Development programme (GovID) of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, the activity was held in Koforidua, from Friday 27th – Sunday 29th May, 2022.

The Editors were taken through the PRMA and its accompanying Regulations, the PIAC 2021 Annual Report, and the PIAC 10-year assessment report of the management and use of petroleum revenues. Some of the issues raised were the need for amendments to the PRMA, the role of the Investment Advisory Committee (IAC), and responsiveness of institutions to PIAC's request for data.





11.1.7 PIAC-NRGI Technical Roundtable Discussion

The Committee holds periodic technical roundtables to delve deeper into issues that were raised in the Committee's statutory reports. In that regard, PIAC, in collaboration with the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI), organised a technical roundtable discussion, on 31st May, 2022 in Accra, under the theme "Ghana's Petroleum: A Critical Investigation of the Marginally Explored Revenue Streams". In attendance was the Deputy Minister for Energy, Hon. Andrew Egyapa Mercer.

Presentations were made by Dr. Abdallah Ali-Nakyea (a Legal Practitioner and Tax Expert), the Ghana Revenue Authority and NRGI on:

- Overview of Ghana's Petroleum Revenue Sources and the Marginally Explored Streams;
- Realizing The Marginally Explored Revenue Streams in Ghana's Petroleum Sector; and
- Administrator Perspectives on Marginally Explored Sources of Petroleum Revenues.

The presentations were followed by a panel discussion that identified the hindrances to realising these revenue sources and highlighted the mechanisms necessary for harnessing the potential from some of these sources. Some issues that arose from the discussion were:

- In the years 2011, 2012, 2018 and 2019, Capital Gains Taxes were not assessed and therefore not paid on transfers and sale of interests between companies operating in the upstream oil and gas sector.
- Other variables accounting for marginally explored revenue sources include non-payment of gas royalties and CAPI due to power sector indebtedness, corporate income tax and dividends from the national oil company and of midstream companies.



During the period under review, the Committee received the delegation from the Republic of Mozambique, made up of Members of Parliament and CSO actors. The courtesy call was for the delegation to learn at first-hand, lessons in the management of the Ghana Petroleum Funds (Sovereign Wealth Fund), as part of the preparation for the establishment of a Sovereign Wealth Fund by the Mozambican government.

The visit was also to interact with PIAC on its independent oversight responsibility and Ghana's experience in managing petroleum revenues, with particular focus on the Ghana Petroleum Funds, with a view to establishing an organisation similar to PIAC.

The Committee shared its experiences since its establishment in 2011 with the delegation and expressed its readiness to support the Mozambican government in both the establishment of the Sovereign Wealth Fund and the oversight body.

The leader of the delegation, Mr. Felix Avelino Silvia, thanked the Committee for the useful lessons shared and its readiness to support the government of Mozambique. He indicated that PIAC would be invited to a national conference in Maputo on the establishment of the National Sovereign Wealth Fund.



11.1.9 National Conference on Sovereign Wealth Fund in Mozambique

The Vice Chairman of the Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC), Mr Nasir Alfa Mohammed, participated in a high-level national conference in Maputo for the establishment of a transparent and sustainable Sovereign Wealth Fund for Mozambique. Mr Mohammed's participation was upon an invitation from the Civic Movement on the Sovereign Wealth Fund (a consortium of major Mozambican Civil Society Organisations), the conference organisers.



11.1.10 Forum on PIAC Recommendations

This forum, which was the fourth of its kind, was organised on Thursday, 7th July, 2022 in Accra to bring to attention the outstanding recommendations made by PIAC and identify ways by which they could be acted upon. Participants were drawn from the Ministry of Finance, the Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA), Ghana National Gas Company (GNGC), and Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC). There were both virtual and in-person participation.

11.1.11 Engagement with Morning Show Hosts and Producers

The activity took place in Teiman, Accra from 8th –10th July, 2022. The engagement sought to leverage the capacities of both journalists and presenters who are

primarily Morning Show Hosts and Producers on different media platforms, in assisting PIAC in its advocacy. Sessions on the Overview of the PRMA and its Regulations, PIAC 2021 Annual Report, and Highlights of Assessment of 10 Years of Petroleum Revenue Management were presented. Each session was followed by an open forum.



11.1.12 Field Trip to FPSO

For PIAC to familiarise itself with the production processes as well as offloading and other activities on a Floating, Production, Storage and Offloading (FPSO) unit, the Committee nominated a two-member team to visit FPSO Kwame Nkrumah (KNK) from Tuesday, 9th August to Wednesday, 10th August, 2022. The two members were Dr. E.Y Tenkorang and Alhaj Ahmad S. Anderson.

The team went through basic safety training and acquired the relevant certificates as a pre-requisite to the visit. These were International Minimum Industrial Safety Training (IMIST), Basic Offshore Safety Induction Emergency Training with Compressed Air Emergency Breathing System (BOSIET with CA-EBS) and Medical Certificate for Offshore work.

On arrival, the Team, accompanied by Mr. Allan Lassey from Tullow Ghana Limited, was taken through the necessary rudiments and provided with the necessary apparels to begin its tour. Aboard the FPSO, the team was welcomed by the Offshore Installation Manager (OIM), who assigned his Production Manager to take the PIAC members on a tour of the FPSO.

The Team was shown the various decks and offices on the FPSO and was taken through the production processes, the separation of gas from crude and water, and the offloading of oil and gas onto the cargo ships. The Team also visited the Central Control Room (CCR) on the Unit to learn how the various operational processes are monitored, regulated and logged.



11.1.13 Courtesy Call by the Ghana Journalists Association (GJA)

The National Executive of the GJA led by its President, Mr Albert Kwabena Dwumfour paid a courtesy call on Members of the Public Interest & Accountability Committee (PIAC) in Accra, on Thursday, 1st September, 2022. The meeting was to explore collaborative options to get Ghanaians informed about the management and use of petroleum revenues by actors in government and how to equip journalists with relevant knowledge and information through capacity-building and training. The GJA Executive were received by the Chairman of PIAC, Prof Kwame Adom-Frimpong and other Members of PIAC.



11.1.14 Hearing of the Ad-Hoc Committee of Parliament on the Motion of Censure against the Minister for Finance

The Parliament of Ghana at its Eleventh Sitting held on Thursday 10th November, 2022, considered a Motion moved by the Minority, led by the Honourable Haruna Iddrisu (Minority Leader) and the Honourable Cassiel Ato Forson (Minority Ranking Member on Finance) calling on the House to pass a vote of censure against the Honourable Minister responsible for Finance, Mr. Ken Ofori-Atta, in accordance with Article 82 of the 1992 Constitution. An 8-member Ad-Hoc Committee of Parliament was constituted by the Speaker with the mandate of investigating the grounds for the motion.

The Ad-Hoc Committee was co-chaired by the Honourable Member of Parliament for Adansi Asokwa, Kobina Tahir Hammond from the majority side and the Honourable Member of Parliament for Bolgatanga East, Dr. Dominic Akuritinga Ayine from the minority side. The other members of the Ad-Hoc Committee were the Honourable Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa, Zanetor Agyeman-Rawlings and Bernard Ahiafor from the Minority side, while the Honourable Patrick Yaw Boamah, Kwame Anyimadu-Antwi and Andrew Agyapa Mercer constitute the group from the Majority side on the Committee.

Among the grounds referred to the Ad-Hoc Committee for consideration was the allegation by the Minority that the Minister had made an illegal payment of oil revenues into offshore accounts in flagrant violation of Article 176 of the 1992 Constitution.

In making this allegation, the Minority relied on the 2022 PIAC Semi-Annual Report which had indicated that crude oil liftings by the Jubilee Oil Holdings Ltd. (JOHL) amounting to US\$100.75 million had not been paid into the Petroleum Holding Fund (PHF), contrary to provisions of the PRMA.

The Public Interest and Accountability Committee (PIAC) was therefore invited, as part of a three-day public hearing, to a Sitting of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Thursday, 17th November, 2022 to provide evidence in respect of the above submissions by the proponents of the motion. PIAC was represented by the Vice Chair, Mr. Nasir Alfa Mohammed, supported by some Secretariat staff.

In his submission before the Ad-Hoc Committee, Mr. Mohammed restated PIAC's position that proceeds from the JOHL lifting form part of petroleum revenue and ought to have been paid into the PHF. PIAC supported this position by referring to Section 6(b) of the PRMA which provides that any amount from the direct or indirect participation of government in petroleum operations shall constitute gross receipts of the PHF. PIAC further referred to section 7 of the PRMA which states that revenue due from the direct or indirect participation of the Republic in petroleum operations shall be paid into the Petroleum Holding Fund, and concluded that proceeds from JOHL represented revenue from indirect participation of the State in petroleum operations. PIAC also submitted before the Censure Committee that it was not privy to communication that the Minister for Finance directed JOHL to pay the crude oil lifting proceeds into an offshore account.



11.1.15 Constituent Engagements

Although PIAC holds an annual general meeting with all member institutions, individual constituent groups are engaged in a bid to keep them updated on the Committee' s programmes. For the period under review, the Committee engaged the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences (GAAS), the Ghana Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (GHEITI), Christian Groups and Queen Mothers' Association on its 2021 Annual Report and 10-year Assessment Report on the management and use of petroleum revenues in Ghana. Some of the key issues highlighted during these engagements were exploring further ways of strengthening the relationship between PIAC and the member-institutions, the need for more space for gas-related matters in PIAC reports, and developing separate guidelines for the District Assemblies Common Fund (DACF) on the use of its allocation from the ABFA. The GAAS committed to providing the Committee with expert advice on issues related to petroleum revenue management and assisting with advocacy on PIAC reports.



11.1.16 Regional Engagements

To engage the citizenry on the management and use of petroleum revenues in 2021, the Committee concurrently held regional engagements in the Western North and North East Regions from Sunday, 24th to Friday, 29th April, 2022.

In both Regions, the PIAC Team held town hall meetings and engagements with tertiary institutions. Some of the key issues raised at the town hall meetings were the reporting mechanisms for ABFA allocated to the District Assembly Common Fund (DACF), payment of judgement debt with ABFA, prosecutorial powers to PIAC, among others. Also, some projects that had received funding from the ABFA were inspected. Notable issues that came out of the project inspections were the non-involvement of the Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assembly (MMDAs) in project execution and supervision, and uncompleted projects due to lack of funds.





11.1.17 District Engagements

The Committee, in the first half of the year, held district engagements in the Awutu Senya East Municipality and Agona East District in the Central Region, and Akwapim South District and Nsawam Adoagyiri Municipality in the Eastern Region. In the second half, PIAC held district engagements in Bono East and Western Regions. In the Bono East Region, the MMDAs involved were the Kintampo North Municipality and Kintampo South District. In the Western Region, the Committee's engagements were held in the Nzema East District and Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipality. As part of the engagements in these MMDAs, radio discussions were held to inform the wider public of the Committee's activities. The Committee also held town hall meetings in the districts and municipalities visited.



11.1.18 Tertiary Engagements

During the year, the Committee engaged six (6) tertiary institutions across four (4) regions (North East, Western, Western North and Bono East). These engagements

were held to streamline communication between Industry and Academia on current developments in the upstream petroleum industry in influencing the management and use of the resource. The institutions engaged were:

- Gambaga College of Education
- Nalerigu College of Nursing and Midwifery
- Wiawso College of Education
- University for Development Studies, Nyankpala Campus
- College of Health and Well-Being Kintampo
- Nursing and Midwifery Training College Tarkwa

Participants were taken through a brief history of PIAC, followed by an overview of how the country has fared in the management of revenue from petroleum production.



11.1.19 Feedback from Citizens

In order to improve the management and use of petroleum revenues, PIAC solicits feedback from citizens though its engagements. Key questions and comments from these engagements included:

- o How are tertiary students benefiting from petroleum revenues?
- o Is there an institution like PIAC in the mining sector?
- Are IOCs compensated by the State when they are unable to discover commercial quantities of oil?
- What is PIAC' s take on Energy Transition, taking into consideration that Ghana recently discovered commercial quantities of petroleum?
- o Is PIAC able to influence government to accept its recommendations?
- How prepared is the country to train Ghanaians to take over from the foreigners in the upstream petroleum industry?
- PIAC should aid in the advocacy for health colleges to also be supported with petroleum revenue.
- There is the need to scale down the priority areas on which petroleum revenues are utilised.
- o How does the youth feature in PIAC' s work?

11.1.20 Project Inspections

The Committee carried out physical inspection of 29 ABFA-funded projects in seven (7) Regions; Central - 6, Eastern - 5, North East - 3, Western North - 3. Western – (4),

Bono East - 5 and Savannah – 3. The exercise was carried out to respond to citizens' demand for PIAC to:

- Verify the existence of reported ABFA-funded projects;
- Obtain first-hand information on the quality and impact of projects funded with petroleum revenues; and,
- Make an informed assessment of how well the oil revenues were being applied.

11.1.20.1 Central Region

1. Construction of 1 No. 3-unit Classroom Block at Agona Asafo AEDA JHS in the Agona East Constituency

Project Details

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiatives
	Secretariat
Contractor	Glovision Investment Limited
Consultant	E-Benzy & Co. Ltd.
Date of Award	20 th December, 2018
Contract Duration	4 months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢195,600.00
ABFA Component	GH¢109,395.00

Percentage of ABFA	55.93%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	8 th February, 2022

Observation

• Even though the project consultant was able to provide some information, he could not confirm the location of the project to enable the PIAC Team conduct its physical inspection.

In a written response, the Special Development Initiative Secretariat later explained that the MP for Agona East District and the District Chief Executive (DCE) initially sited the project at Agona East AEDA JHS at Agona Asafo. However, the DCE before the commencement of the project wrote to the project consultant, requesting for the project to be relocated to the Agona Nsaba Islamic JHS. No documentation was provided to validate the relocation. All available documents still bore the original project title and location.



2. Construction of Steel Bridge over River Akora on Agona Nsaba - Agona Nkran Feeder Road

Project Details

Implementing Agency	MoRH (Department of Feeder Roads)
Contractor	M/s Old Days Co. Ltd.
Consultant	Not provided
Date of Award	24 th December, 2008
Contract Duration	12 months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢977,325.00
ABFA Component	GH¢926,924.99
Percentage of ABFA	94.84%
Year of Disbursement	2018
Date of Inspection	8 th February, 2022

Observations

- The project started and should have been completed before the discovery of oil.
- The Assembly was not consulted before the construction of the steel bridge. The bridge was however handed over to the Assembly.
- For a project that commenced 12 years ago, the integrity of the bridge was satisfactory.
- The project had experienced a number of variations (beyond bridge construction) leading to the extended project duration.



3. Construction of 1 No. Clinic with Doctors' Residence and Ancillary Facilities at Akweley in the Awutu Senya East Constituency

Project Details

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiatives
	Secretariat
Contractor	Ofori Asante Plus Co. Ltd.
Consultant	Do-Win Ventures
Date of Award	20 th January, 2019
Contract Duration	7 months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢1,097,865.78
ABFA Component	GH¢557,007.41
Percentage of ABFA	50.74%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	11 th February, 2022

According to the Assembly, the project was funded from government's US\$1 million per constituency programme, and was completed in the last quarter of 2020. However, about half of the total project cost was funded from the ABFA.

Observations

- The PIAC Team, together with the Municipal Chief Executive, and the clinic staff, undertook a physical inspection of the facility and observed that the facility was well-constructed. The facility has a:
 - Laboratory
 - Pharmacy
 - Dispensary
 - Male and Female detention wards
 - Consulting room
 - Treatment/Procedure Room
 - Incinerator
 - Shared office for records and the Mental Health unit.
- The facility, however, is not fully equipped.
- The facility is manned by a resident doctor, supported by other health workers.
- According to the clinic staff, even though the facility was meant to serve the Akweley community, its citizens prefer to go to Kasoa Polyclinic for healthcare.
 This has affected patronage of the facility, since it was commissioned.
- This raised the question as to whether a needs assessment was conducted and whether the community was engaged with regards to the social amenities they would have preferred to be constructed in the community.



4. Construction of 2km Road, Drainage and 6-unit Classroom Building in Kasoa in the Awutu Senya East Constituency in the Central Region

Project Details

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiatives
	Secretariat
Contractor	Kpalua Company Ltd.
Consultant	Cost Survey Consult
Date of Award	20 th March, 2020

Contract Duration	7 months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢4,764,755.00
ABFA Component	GH¢2,231,800.52
Percentage of ABFA	46.84%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	11 th February, 2022

The PIAC Team together with the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Coastal Development Authority (CODA), inspected the project.

Observation

• The contractor had laid the base structure and the first seal of the road. The second seal, some drain works and the construction of the 6-unit classroom block were outstanding.



5. Construction of 1.60km of Road at Datus Electoral Area at Kasoa in the Awutu Senya East Constituency

Project Details

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiatives
	Secretariat
Contractor	Sisaturasoul Co. Ltd
Consultant	Cost Survey Consult
Date of Award	20 th March, 2020
Contract Duration	7 months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢4,036,074.17
ABFA Component	GH¢2,106,461.96
Percentage of ABFA	52.19%

Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	11 th February, 2022

The scope of the project was road works, concrete works and drains.

Observation

• The works that are yet to be completed are the second seal and some drainage works.



6. Construction of Durbar Grounds at Ofaakor in the Awutu Senya East Constituency

Project Details

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiatives
	Secretariat
Contractor	Arbiko Estate and Construction Co. Ltd

Consultant	Not provided
Date of Award	Not provided
Contract Duration	Not provided
Original Contract Sum	GH¢200,000.00
ABFA Component	GH¢190,000.00
Percentage of ABFA	95.00%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	16 th February, 2022

Following the inspection exercise in the municipality, a citizen of the Awutu Senya East Municipality drew the attention of the PIAC Team to a project within the Municipality that was allegedly in a deplorable state, and hence appealed to PIAC to inspect it. The said project was the Construction of Durbar Grounds at Ofaakor in the Awutu Senya East Constituency (Nai Odupong Awushie Tetteh II Durbar Grounds).

Upon further checks, the Committee confirmed that the project had received funding from the ABFA and later inspected the project site.

Observation

 Though the project had a lot of outstanding works (lack of Expansion Joints, Irregular Screeding, Filling, Plastering, Cracks), it was observed that the project was commissioned by the Member of Parliament (MP) for Awutu Senya East constituency on 28th November, 2019.



11.1.20.2 Eastern Region

7. Construction of 2-Unit Kindergarten Block with Ancillary Facilities at Ahwerase in the Akuapem South Constituency

Project Details

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiatives
	Secretariat
Contractor	Akofex Ventures
Consultant	Bong Limited

Date of Award	9 th November, 2018
Contract Duration	4 months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢166,619.00
ABFA Component	GH¢158,198.05
Percentage of ABFA	94.95%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	8 th February, 2022

Observations

- The team observed the absence of a drainage system on-site to carry run-off water and sewer waste.
- The block did not have a water storage tank.
- The project, scheduled to be completed in 4 months by March 2019, was completed in 2020.



8. Construction of 1 No. Rural market with Storage and Mechanised Boreholes in the Akuapim South Constituency

Project Details

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiatives
	Secretariat
Contractor	Mass Premium Ltd.
Consultant	Multi-Lead Co. Ltd.
Date of Award	29 th January, 2019
Contract Duration	6 months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢923,954.72
ABFA Component	GH¢581,140.62
Percentage of ABFA	62.90%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	8 th February, 2022

Observations

- Although the PIAC team was informed that work had been completed by the contractor, the facility was yet to be handed over and put to use.
- The market structures had started deteriorating with visible defects such as cracks in the floor and walls, and rusty roofs, thereby raising concerns about

- the integrity of the structure. The team was also informed that whenever it rained, the shed got flooded.
- From PIAC's interactions with the community, it was reported that because the market was not in use, most market women in Pokrom and its surrounding villages take their produce to Nsawam to sell. However, if the market was in operation, trading activities that would have otherwise been done in Nsawam would remain in the town.

The Committee hereby recommends that the contractor be brought back to site to remedy the defects before handing over the project to the District Assembly for use.



9. Rehabilitation of Office Space and Headmistress Bungalow at Aburi Girls SHS

Project Details¹

Implementing Agency	Ministry of Education
Contractor	Not provided
Consultant	Not provided
Date of Award	Not provided
Contract Duration	Not provided
Original Contract Sum	Not provided
ABFA Component	GH¢99,010.49
Percentage of ABFA	Not available
Year of Disbursement	2015
Date of Inspection	8 th February, 2022

The project consisted of the renovation of an office space and a bungalow for the Headmistress. Since the renovation in 2015, the bungalow had developed structural defects, and necessitated additional work to be done. At the time of PIAC's visit, an ongoing renovation by a group of Old Students was underway.

 $^{^{\}mathrm{1}}$ The Committee is yet to be furnished with data on the project by the Ministry of Education



10. Construction of 1 No. Rural Market with Storage and Mechanised Boreholes at Nsawam Pwd/Otukwadjo in the Nsawam Adoagyiri Constituency

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiatives
	Secretariat
Contractor	Basham Co. Ltd.
Consultant	Multi-Lead Co. Ltd.
Date of Award	29 th January, 2019
Contract Duration	6 months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢920,354.00

ABFA Component	GH¢190,707.57
Percentage of ABFA	20.72%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	11 th February, 2022

- The PIAC team visited the OtuKwadjo community to inspect the project but did not find it there, but the team was redirected to Pwd/Kudjo in the Municipality, where the project was sited.
 - The Special Development Initiative Secretariat had stated that the project, which was to be sited in two communities (OtuKwadjo 1 shed and Nsawam PWD 2 sheds), consisted of three (3) sheds (24-unit stalls each), a water system of 5,000 litres, a storage facility and a 4-seater water closet. However, the Secretariat stated that the Assembly was unable to secure a site for the shed that was to be located in OtuKwadjo.
- Some stalls were unoccupied due to the absence of electricity and washroom facilities. Others were being customised to fit the purpose of those who had rented them.
- Even though the section of the project at PWD-Kudjo had been deemed by the Special Development Initiative Secretariat as commissioned, the borehole, which is part of the water system had not been drilled.
- Officials of the Assembly also indicated that the Assembly was not involved in the selection and implementation of the project.



11. Construction of 2 No. Boreholes with Ancillaries at Akwamu and Asikafo Amantem in the Nsawam Adoagyiri Constituency.

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiatives
	Secretariat
Contractor	Padiki D. Consultancy and Construction
Consultant	Bong Limited
Date of Award	7 th November, 2018
Contract Duration	4 months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢99,420.00
ABFA Component	GH¢89,478.00
Percentage of ABFA	90.00%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	11 th February, 2022

The PIAC team visited both communities and inspected the projects which comprised a poly tank, a pump and a mechanised borehole. At Akwamu, the water from the borehole was sold and the proceeds were used to carry out maintenance works on the facility. The team was informed that the water system had brought an end to the perennial water shortages that the community experienced.

Observations

- At Asikafo Amantem, the use of the water was free.
- The pump was not secured, and thus exposed to the vagaries of the weather.
- The absence of labelling made it difficult to identify the project as an ABFAfunded project.



11.1.20.3 North East Region

The PIAC team was accompanied by the North East Regional Planning Officer (REPO) in visiting all three projects.

12. Construction of 1000MT warehouse at Gambaga

Implementing Agency	Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA)
Contractor	Ramboll Limited
Consultant	Not provided
Date of Award	18 th July, 2018
Contract Duration	23 months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢2,620,532.86
ABFA Component	GH¢1,330,932.11
Percentage of ABFA	50.79%
Year of Disbursement	2019 & 2020
Date of Inspection	26 th April, 2022

- Ancillary facilities that were part of the project were a laboratory, security post, changing rooms, washrooms, and a mechanised borehole.
- Although the facility was commissioned in 2021, it became operational in 2022.
- Since its operationalisation, two farmers had patronised the service, storing a total of 11,835 (84kg) bags (9,915 and 1,920) of rice at a flat rate of GH¢1 per season.
- The rice bags were packed from the floor, without pallets. This exposed the grains to contact with moisture, which could reduce its quality.
- Some of the bags of rice were torn, with the grains of rice left to the risk of exposure to air moisture and insect infestation.

- The facility does not have a stacker, thereby limiting the full utilisation of the warehouse storage space.
- The facility is well-ventilated, with the bags evenly spaced.
- The facility is an affordable solution for farmers in need of storage for their harvest.



13. Construction of 1 No. 3-Storey RCC Administration Block at North East Region

Implementing Agency	Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation
	and Rural Development
Contractor	M/s MyTurn Limited
Consultant	Architectural & Engineering Services Limited
	(AESL Ltd)
Date of Award	Not provided
Contract Duration	12 months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢19,000,000 (approx.)
ABFA Component	GH¢7,105,674.99
Percentage of ABFA	37.40%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	26 th April, 2022

The 3-Storey Administration Block, located in Nalerigu, is intended to accommodate the North East Regional Coordinating Council. Construction commenced in 2019, and was expected to be completed in November 2021. At the time of inspection, there were outstanding works to be done on the project.

- Works were ongoing beyond the expected completion date, even though there was no documentation granting an extension of time to the Contractor.
- Works such as painting, tiling, electrical installations, and furnishing remained outstanding.

 According to the Site Engineer, some variations were made to the original scope to accommodate the construction of a retaining wall and asphaltic overlay of the parking lot.







14. Upgrading of Nalerigu - Gbintri Road

Implementing Agency	Ministry of Roads and Highways (MoRH)
, , ,	

Contractor	Maripoma Enterprise Limited
Consultant	Ghana Highway Authority
Date of Award	19 th May, 2020
Contract Duration	36 Months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢164,000,000 (approx.)
ABFA Component	GH¢20,000,000
Percentage of ABFA	~12.20%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	27 th April, 2022

According to the project consultant, the Ghana Highway Authority (North East Regional Office), the scope of the project is clearing and road widening works, earthworks, U-drains and culverts, sealing works, and road markings. The project is being implemented by the Ministry of Roads and Highways (MoRH). The 40km road runs through about 15 communities, and when completed would ease transportation around these communities.

- Out of the scope, clearing and road widening works had been completed, with earthworks and culvert works ongoing at the time of the Committee's visit.
- Out of the five (5) Interim Payment Certificates (IPCs) raised by the contractor, three (3) had been paid.
- Most of the U-drains across the stretch of road inspected were not uniform,
 and showed signs of failure. Adequate supervision of the project would have

ensured that the drains were uniformly shaped, as the cost of correcting such defects is high.



11.1.20.4 Western North Region

15. Construction of 1 No. 3-Storey RCC Administration Block at Sefwi Wiawso

Project Details

Implementing Agency	Ministry of Local Government,
	Decentralisation, and Rural Development
Contractor	China State Housing Construction Gh. Ltd.
Consultant	Architectural and Engineering Services
	Ltd. (AESL)
Date of Award	18 th October, 2019
Contract Duration	12 Months (Extended to 20/12/2021)
Original Contract Sum	GH¢17,647,534.17
ABFA Component	GH¢5,256,851.51
Percentage of ABFA	29.79%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	25 th April, 2022

- The building was completed and was in use.
- The Team's overall assessment of the project was satisfactory.
- The Team urged the RCC to ensure regular maintenance of the building.
- Works to be done on the urinal basins of some of the washrooms remained outstanding.



16. Construction of 3 No. Snr. Staff Bungalows at Sefwi Wiawso

Implementing Agency	Ministry of Local Government,
	Decentralisation, and Rural Development
Contractor	Josano Limited
Consultant	Architectural and Engineering Services
	Ltd. (AESL)
Date of Award	27 th November, 2019
Contract Duration	6 Months (Extended to 20/06/2022)
Original Contract Sum	GH¢3,103,525.64
ABFA Component	GH¢1,517,372.46
Percentage of ABFA	48.89%
Year of Disbursement	2020

Date of Inspection	25 th April, 2022

Observations

- All the 3-unit bungalows had been built, roofed and walled. Internal finishing in all three bungalows was almost completed.
- There were still some outstanding works to be done on the bungalow's exterior.

The Committee advocates for speedy completion of the project for use by the respective officers.



17. Construction of 1 No. Rural Market at Amoaya in the Bodi Constituency

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiatives
	Secretariat
Contractor	Samotrust Company Ltd.
Consultant	E-Benzy and Co. Ltd.

Date of Award	29 th November, 2018
Contract Duration	4 months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢199,915.00
ABFA Component	GH¢107,327.70
Percentage of ABFA	53.69%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	27 th April, 2022

The team met the DCE of Bodi, who indicated that the project concept was developed from the Assembly and submitted to the Special Development Initiatives who provided funding for its execution (this is an exception to the usual practice where sub-national authorities are not consulted on projects to be implemented in their communities). The DCE stated that the project had stalled and indicated that he had begun efforts to seek funding from Government to complete it.

- The market had stalled due to the delays in payment to the Contractor. As a result, the contractor indicated his unwillingness to continue the project.
- Apart from the abandoned project, a new rural market construction was underway, and being implemented by the Coastal Development Authority.



11.1.20.5 Western Region

18. Construction of the Axim Coastal Protection Project

Implementing Agency	Ministry of Water Resources Works and
	Housing
Contractor	Makam Plant Hire Limited (MPH)
Consultant	Hydrological Services Department
Date of Award	3 rd September, 2018
Contract Duration	48 Months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢369,085,972.50
ABFA Component	GH¢35,587,902.30
Percentage of ABFA	9.64%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	26 th July, 2022

When the PIAC Team visited, members saw that the project was completed. The boulders had been placed and the fisher folks were busily at work. Also, there was an inland port for the fishermen.

Observation

• The project was well-planned and executed.



19. Construction of CHPS Compound at Akango

Implementing Agency	Ghana Health Service
Contractor	Josewith Construction Ltd.
Consultant	Estate Management Department
Date of Award	26 th September, 2012
Contract Duration	4 Months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢127,311.42

Revised Contract Sum	GH¢259,272.91
ABFA Component	GH¢194,614.70
Percentage of ABFA	75.06%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	26 th July, 2022

Although the structure was reported to have been 97 percent completed, the PIAC team was informed by some residents that the project had been abandoned since 2015. The PIAC team expressed disappointment over the state of the facility considering the need for a health facility to serve the community and the amount of money that has been invested in the project.

- Data from the Ministry of Finance indicated that this project received GH¢194,614.70 from the ABFA in 2020. The Ministry of Health, however indicates that total disbursements to the project was GH¢207,278.76.
- The structure has been outgrown by weeds and some portions have started deteriorating.



20. Rehabilitation of Tarkwa-Bogoso-Ayamfuri Road, and Relocation of Water Facilities

Project Details

Implementing Agency	Ministry of Roads and Highways
Contractor	Not provided
Consultant	Not provided
Date of Award	Not provided
Contract Duration	Not provided
Original Contract Sum	Not provided
ABFA Component	GH¢905,203.43
Percentage of ABFA	Not available
Year of Disbursement	2021
Date of Inspection	27 th July, 2022

The PIAC Team was accompanied during the inspection by the Chief Engineer of the Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipal Assembly. He said the project spanned beyond Tarkwa so the team inspected the portion of the road that was under the jurisdiction of the Assembly. The Team expressed satisfaction with the road project.

- The road had been completed and the road markings done.
- The Chief Engineer was however not able to confirm the exact location of the water facilities that had been relocated along the road corridor.



21. Construction of Community Center, Office and Store at Ahwetieso in the Tarkwa Nsuaem Constituency

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiatives
	Secretariat
Contractor	Wassapep Limited
Consultant	E-Benzy & Co. Limited
Date of Award	13 th November, 2018
Contract Duration	4 Months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢197,370.00
ABFA Component	GH¢87,308.10
Percentage of ABFA	44.24%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	27 th July, 2022

The PIAC Team was accompanied by officials from the Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipal Assembly to inspect this project. The project is located at the Chief's Palace in Ahwetieso. The team was received by the Tufuhene, Nana Kwaku Owusu, who briefed the team on the project. He indicated that the project started in 2019 but had stalled due to lack of funds, and through the community's own initiative, pillars were erected. He also appealed to PIAC to help advocate for the completion of the project following the inspection.

Observations

- Calls made to the contractor on the project revealed that they were yet to be paid for the work they had already done.
- Outstanding works include the roofing and woodworks.
- The project had been abandoned, with the deteriorating structure overgrown with weeds.

The Team found the project to be unsatisfactory and seeks to have further consultations on its status.



11.1.20.6 Bono East Region

22. Upgrading of New Longoro - Kintampo - Zambrama Road

Project Details

Ministry of Roads and Highways
Cymain Ghana Ltd
Not provided
6 th December, 2012
48 months
GH¢28,225,837.68
GH¢19,984,053.63
70.80%
2017 & 2020
25 th July, 2022

The team inspected the road project, which passes through Kintampo to Zambrama. The road is a link between the Wa and Tamale roads. According to the Foreman of the project, the scope of the project includes:

- Sub-base;
- Base;
- Bitumen surfacing;
- Side drains; and,
- Bridge over River Oyoko.

- The team observed that the Kintampo New Longoro section of the project had been completed, with the outstanding work being the construction of the side slope for the bridge.
- The quality is fair, looking at traffic volume and can last for 10 years if managed well.

The Team's overall assessment of the project was satisfactory and urged the Assembly to ensure regular maintenance to prolong the lifespan of the road.



23. Construction of 1 no. 3-unit Classroom Block with Ancillary Facilities at Kadelso Basic School in the Kintampo North Constituency

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiative Secretariat
Contractor	Beskel Construction
Consultant	Bong Ltd
Date of Award	9 th November, 2018
Contract Duration	4 Months

Original Contract Sum	GH¢198,764.00
ABFA Component	GH¢78,651.90
Percentage of ABFA	39.57%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	25 th July, 2022

The second project visited in the Municipality was the construction of a 3-unit classroom block at Kadelso Basic School. According to the Contractor, an amount of GH¢78,651.90, being the ABFA funds disbursed to the project, was the only payment received since the award of the contract.

The scope of the project included the construction of the classroom block, a staff common room and headmaster's office, painting, and roofing.

Observations

- There was delayed mobilisation to site leading to late commencement of work, with the project exceeding the original contract duration of 4 months.
- Notable defects on the project included a leaking roof gutter which had caused the plywood ceiling to deteriorate. Also, the rain gutters were blocked, with the rain water flowing back.

The project was handed over to the Assembly in 2020 upon completion and is currently in use.



24. Construction of 1000 MT Warehouse and Ancillary Structures at Jema

Project Details

Implementing Agency	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
Contractor	Not provided
Consultant	Not provided
Date of Award	Not provided
Contract Duration	Not provided
Original Contract Sum	Not provided
ABFA Component	GH¢1,195,848.18
Percentage of ABFA	Not available
Year of Disbursement	2019 & 2021
Date of Inspection	27 th July, 2022

The warehouse is located close to the Assembly's administration block in Jema. The project had been abandoned by the contractor at the time of the Committee's visit.

Observations

- The quality of materials used for the construction of the warehouse were not up
 to the specifications required in the environment in which the project was
 located. This had led to structural defects such as opening in the roof which can
 damage stored produce whenever it rains.
- The doors had not been fixed, with its opening barred off by a piece of roofing sheet. This poses a threat as the sharp sheet could fall off and injure anyone on site.

The Committee recommends that Government get the contractor to come back to site to complete the project.



25. Rehabilitation of Slaughter House in the Kintampo South Constituency

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiative Secretariat
Contractor	Alright Construction Ltd.
Consultant	Bong Ltd

Date of Award	25 th November, 2018
Contract Duration	4 Months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢99,830.00
ABFA Component	GH¢80,756.10
Percentage of ABFA	80.89%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	27 th July, 2022

The Contractor stated that the rehabilitation work, which was carried out in 2019, was in respect of two different structures; a slaughterhouse and a meat shop. For the slaughterhouse, the scope of the project was painting, laying of pipes and taps, two water tanks and re-roofing the structure.

At meat shop, the painting was completed while the electrical wiring and louvre blades were fitted. Alright Construction Ltd. stated that even though the project had been completed and handed over to the Assembly in 2020, the final retention was yet to be released to it.



26. Evacuation of Refuse Dump at Jema in the Kintampo South Constituency Project Details

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiative Secretariat
Contractor	Benasu Company Ltd
Consultant	Bong Ltd
Date of Award	25 th November, 2018
Contract Duration	4 Months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢199,920.00
ABFA Component	GH¢189,924.00
Percentage of ABFA	95.00%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	27 th July, 2022

The Contractor stated that the evacuation of the refuse was done in 2019. Members of the Community stated that since then, ZoomLion Co. Ltd (a company contracted to evacuate refuse in the district) had not been regularly evacuating the refuse.

This has led to accumulation of refuse at the site, and a potential risk of contracting diseases. The Assembly informed the Committee that Zoomlion stated that the vehicle used for evacuating the refuse had broken down, and that the Assembly had to use its funds to evacuate the accumulated refuse from time to time.



12.2.16.7 Savannah Region

27. Erection and Completion of 3-Storey RCC Administration Block at Savannah Region at Damongo

Implementing Agency	Ministry of Regional Reorganisation
Contractor	M/S Dadgene Borns Ltd.
Consultant	Not provided
Date of Award	Not provided
Contract Duration	Not provided
Original Contract Sum	GH¢17,410,545.83
ABFA Component	GH¢8,630,297.41
Percentage of ABFA	49.57%
Year of Disbursement	2020 & 2021
Date of Inspection	23 rd September, 2022

The project has received a total of GH¢8,630,297.41 from the ABFA from 2020 to 2021. (GH¢2,611,581.87 & GH¢4,215,081.49 in 2020 and GH¢1,803,634.05 in 2021.) The project was still under construction during the time of PIAC's visit. The team inspected all three floors of the building and its exterior works.

Although there were outstanding works to be done, the progress of work was commendable. Furniture to be used in the offices had been acquired ahead of completion of the project. The Team's overall assessment of the project was satisfactory and urged the timely completion of the project. Physical progress was 93%.



28. Construction of 3 no. Snr. Staff Bungalow at Damongo

Implementing Agency	Ministry of Regional Reorganisation
Contractor	M/S Hopthorn Co. Ltd.

Consultant	Not provided
Date of Award	Not provided
Contract Duration	Not provided
Original Contract Sum	GH¢2,983,771.99
ABFA Component	GH¢845,508.64
Percentage of ABFA	28.34%
Year of Disbursement	2020
Date of Inspection	23 rd September, 2022

All the 3-unit bungalows had been built, roofed and walled. Internal finishes were yet to be done, as well as works on the exterior. The Team's assessment of the project was satisfactory, although there is the need for a speedy completion of the project to make it fit for use. Each of the units had 2 bedrooms, kitchen and a boys' quarters. The project was reported to have a 57 percent completion rate.



29. Construction of CHPS Compound at Mognori in the Damongo Constituency Project Details

Implementing Agency	Special Development Initiative Secretariat
	& Office of Government Machinery
Contractor	Sir Banku Enterprise
Consultant	Maligu Investment Limited
Date of Award	9 th November, 2018
Contract Duration	4 Months
Original Contract Sum	GH¢197,700.00
ABFA Component	GH¢197,700.00
Percentage of ABFA	100%
Year of Disbursement	2020 & 2021
Date of Inspection	23 rd September, 2022

The project received a total of GH¢197,700.00 from the ABFA between 2020 and 2021 (GH¢69,389.10 in 2020 & GH¢128,310.90 in 2021). The CHPS compound had been completed and handed over for use by the community. Barely a year of use, portions of the building had started deteriorating.

The facility also had just two staff nurses attending to patients, a situation they described as woefully inadequate. The Municipal Chief Executive (MCE), who accompanied the team, promised to address the issues raised by the clinic staff.



11.1.21 Key Concerns arising from Project Inspections

11.1.21.1 Project Siting

Some projects visited by the Committee during the period were sited in locations different from what were in the data submitted by the Ministry of Finance to PIAC. This deprives the targeted beneficiaries of the project. This also makes monitoring such projects difficult, as there would be no structures meeting the project description at their original sites.

11.1.21.2 Lack of Ancillary Facilities

Some of the projects inspected which had been handed over to the MMDAs lacked ancillary facilities, such as storage tanks, drainage systems and equipment. This makes it difficult for the Assemblies to efficiently manage and use the facilities.

11.1.21.3 Project Commissioning

The Committee noted that the construction of Durbar Grounds at Ofaakor in the Awutu Senya East Constituency, which received ABFA funding, had a lot of outstanding works. This raises questions as to why a project that was not completed was commissioned for use.

11.1.21.4 Co-mingling of ABFA with other funds

The ABFA continues to be co-mingled with counterpart funds from other sources. This makes it difficult to monitor and assess the impact of the ABFA in project delivery to the beneficiary communities.