

# GII ALERT

Quarterly Newsletter

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## FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION; ALL SHOULDERS TO THE WHEEL - GII

The Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII) calls on every Ghanaian to play a role in the fight against corruption. This message was articulated by the Programmes Manager of GII, Mrs. Mary Awelana Addah, while speaking at a stakeholder engagement in Tamale. GII in partnership with the Ghana Developing Communities Association (GDCA) and SEND-Ghana organised the event to empower citizens to demand accountability from their leaders. Mrs. Addah lamented the fact that corruption has become more widespread and has evolved over the years. She explained that it is no longer confined to





political offices and public institutions, but has infiltrated all aspects of society, including homes, churches, and schools. Furthermore, she noted that corruption is no longer hidden in the shadows, but is often carried out in plain sight.

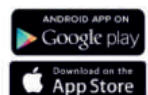
The GII's Programmes Manager also pointed out that corruption has become more adaptive, changing to keep up with the world around it. For example, she mentioned that some people now even take bribes through mobile payment systems, showing how technology has enabled new forms of corruption.

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## NON-STATE ACTORS CONVENE TO DISCUSS WAYS TO PREVENT TERRORISM AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Five boarder communities in Ghana have been engaged on the vexed subject of Preventing and Countering violent extremism and terrorism (PCVET). The engagement was organised by the Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII) as part of CSO's contribution towards preventing the activities of violent extremism and terrorism from entering Ghana. A total of 149 participants, including people living with disabilities, media representatives, women's groups, youth groups, community-based organizations, landlords associations, and drivers' unions, attended the meetings in Aflao, Paga,

Ashaiman, Hamile, and Elubo.

During the meetings, experts drawn from the Ghana Immigration Service (GIS), including sector commanders and senior personnel as well as GII programmes team made a presentation, followed by a moderated plenary session. The presentations focused on the role of non-state actors under the National Framework for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Terrorism (NAFPCVET), the impact of corruption, and GII's project and its contribution to the preventive and pre-emptive function of NAFPCVET.

In Paga and Elubo, GIS officers raised concerns about the use of motorcycles to transport illegal migrants to and from the communities. In Aflao, participants expressed concern about the frequent entry of Fulani herdsmen, accusing immigration

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## FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION...

At the event, Mrs. Addah appealed to every Ghanaian to report instances of corruption whenever they come across them. She emphasized that in order for the country to win the fight against this pervasive problem, citizens must be willing to expose those involved and allow the relevant institutions to take action.

Mrs. Mary Awelana Addah said, "Corruption happens everywhere, corruption involves everyone. It's not only in the political offices or public institutions that corruption happens, it happens even in our homes, churches and schools.

The notion that corruption happens in the dark can no longer be correct as people engage in all sorts of corrupt activities in broad daylight."

It is clear that corruption is a major challenge facing

Ghana, and one that cannot be tackled by any single group or organization. It will require the collective effort of every citizen to combat this issue and create a more honest and transparent society. The GII's call to action serves as a reminder of the importance of taking a stand against corruption and doing our part to root it out.

However, it is not enough to simply report instances of corruption when we see them. We must also be proactive in creating a culture of integrity and accountability. This means demanding honesty and transparency from our leaders and holding them accountable for their actions. It also means refusing to engage in corrupt practices ourselves and promoting ethical behaviour in our own communities.

In conclusion, the Ghana Integrity Initiative's call to action serves as a reminder of the crucial role that every citizen plays in the fight against corruption. By working together and taking a stand against corruption, we can create a more honest and transparent society for all.

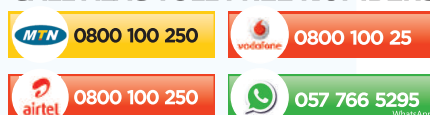
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*It's not only in the political offices or public institutions that corruption happens, it happens even in our homes, churches and schools.*

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Participants at GIIs migration related Violent Extremism and Terrorism (VET) workshop in Accra



A cross-section of participants of GIIs VET workshop held in Accra



Col Ba-Taa-Banah speaking at GIIs VET workshop held in Accra

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### NON-STATE ACTORS CONVENE TO DISCUSS WAYS TO PREVENT TERRORISM AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM

officers of not thoroughly checking these herdsmen. In Hamile, participants complained about a lack of jobs in the community, leading some youth to engage in unlawful activities at the border.

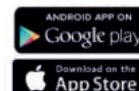
A pre-and-post workshop assessment was conducted to evaluate knowledge gained by participants. The results showed a marked improvement in participants' knowledge of violent extremism and terrorism, as well as their understanding of their roles as non-state actors in

PCVET, the definition and effects of corruption, and GII's Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC) and Eye-on-Corruption app.

Overall, the meetings were successful in increasing participants' knowledge and understanding of the issues surrounding violent extremism and terrorism, as well as the roles and responsibilities of non-state actors in preventing and combating these issues. GII's project and its contribution to the NAFPCVET were also effectively introduced to the participants.



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## GII AND GIS DISCUSS FREE MOVEMENT, VIOLENT EXTREMISM AND TERRORISM, AND CORRUPTION ON RADIO AND TELEVISION PROGRAM



**G**hana Integrity Initiative (GII) organised four radio and one television program in Aflao, Navrongo, Ashaiman, Nandom, and Elubo to discuss the relationship between corruption, free movement of people and goods, and violent extremism. The program, which lasted between 30 minutes to an hour on each station, aimed to highlight the importance of fighting corruption in preventing and countering violent extremism and terrorism (PVET).

Resource persons from the Ghana Immigration Service (GIS) and the GII took turns discussing issues related to the free movement of people and goods, violent extremism and terrorism, and corruption. The audience were also sensitized on how corruption can impact the free movement of people and goods and facilitate violent extremism and terrorism. GII also discussed its migration project and its objectives, and encouraged community members to report any acts of corruption along the border communities to GII's Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC) and Eye-on-Corruption app or the appropriate state institutions.

Listeners were allowed to phone in and ask questions, seek clarification, or make comments. Some listeners asked about the confidentiality of corruption reporting to the security agencies, to which GII assured them of confidentiality when using ALAC and Eye-on-Corruption and encouraged everyone to use the platforms. Other callers complained about the

frequent use of illegal routes by individuals and goods without any action by the GIS officials to stop them. One caller was quoted as saying, "We are delighted about the public education and will encourage you to continue enlightening us on corruption and violent extremism for citizens to do the right thing."

The radio and television program reached an estimated 160,000 listeners and viewers through the following stations:

- **Holy FM in Aflao, Ketu South District with an estimated listenership of 35,000**
- **Nabiina Community Radio in Navrongo, Kassena Nankana Municipal with an estimated listenership of 45,000**
- **Ashaiman TV in Ashaiman Municipal with an estimated listenership of 35,000**
- **Nandom FM in Nandom, Nandom Municipal District with an estimated listenership of 25,000**
- **West FM in Elubo, Jomoro District with an estimated listenership of 20,000.**

Overall, the program was successful in raising awareness and educating the public on the relationship between corruption, free movement of people and goods, and violent extremism, and in encouraging the reporting of corruption by citizens.

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