

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA LIBRARY

**IN THE SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTH
PARLIAMENT OF THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA**

REPORT OF THE

FINANCE COMMITTEE

ON THE

**2019 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE MINISTRY OF
INNER-CITY AND ZONGO DEVELOPMENT**

13TH DECEMBER, 2018

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Following the presentation of the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government for the year ending 31st December, 2019 by the Minister for Finance, Hon. Ken Ofori-Atta on 15th November, 2018, the 2019 Budget Estimates for the Ministry of Inner-City and Zongo Development was referred to the Finance Committee for consideration and report in accordance with article 179 of the 1992 Constitution and Order 140 (4) of the Standing Orders of Parliament.

The Committee met with the Chief Director for the Ministry of Inner-City and Zongo Development, Mrs. Gifty Mahama Biyira and technical teams from the Ministries of Finance and Inner-City and Zongo Development.

2.0 BACKGROUND

As part of government's goal to drive development through production and job creation, and to include the excluded in development, the Ministry was established to help accelerate development in Inner City and Zongo communities to ensure total development.

The Ministry's goal is to facilitate a broad-based infrastructure, social and economic development of Inner-City and Zongo communities within the context of inclusive, resilient, safe human settlements and sustainable urban development.

The core functions of the Ministry are to:

- Formulate and promote policies to deal with special needs of Inner-city and Zongo communities;
- Initiate and coordinate research and review of policies, laws, rules and regulations affecting Inner-City and Zongo Communities; and
- Coordinate and implement planned programmes for the development of Inner city and Zongo communities.

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The policy objectives adopted from the National Medium Term Development Policy framework include:

- Enhancing inclusive and equitable access to, and participation in education at all levels.
- Providing the youth with opportunities for skills training, employment and labour market information.
- Upgrading existing slums and preventing the occurrence of new ones.
- Promoting behavioral change for enhanced development outcomes.
- Developing and maintaining sports and recreational infrastructure.
- Promoting sustainable tourism to preserve historical, cultural and natural heritage.
- Enhancing peace and security.

3.0 SUMMARY OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

Following the passage of the Zongo Development Fund law, the Ministry caused to be drafted the Zongo Development Fund Regulations which has been forwarded to the Attorney General's Department for vetting and processing for Parliamentary consideration.

The Ministry also established the Zongo Development Fund Secretariat. During the year, the CEO of the Zongo Development Fund and his two (2) Deputies were appointed to manage the Secretariat. The Zongo Development Fund Board was also inaugurated on 11th June 2018 and its maiden meeting was held on 27th June 2018.

During the year, the Ministry compiled baseline information/data on Zongos in five out of the Ten (10) regions, comprising Sixty-six (66) Districts, One Hundred and Thirty-three (133) towns and Four hundred and Seventy-nine (479) Zongo communities. The data from the five (5) regions have been used to estimate that there are about 4.6 million people living in a total of 1,080 zongo across the country.

The Ministry completed the construction of three (3) artificial football (Astro Turf) parks with spectator stands and dressing rooms at Madina, Kibi and Walewale. The Ministry also

commenced the construction of Two (2) additional artificial football parks at Fadama in Accra and Aboabo in Kumasi.

The Ministry has also constructed five (5) Green Parks at Bolgatanga, Salaga, Yeji, Tafo-Kumasi and Akim Oda. The green park project comprises the construction of green turfs, inner perimeter fencing, reserve player seats and mechanized boreholes for grass maintenance.

The Ministry dredged the 1.7km long Aboabo (Pelele) storm drain in Kumasi and constructed two (2) tertiary drains measuring a total of 994m in Madina, Accra.

In line with its mandate, the Ministry also:

- renovated six (6) classroom blocks at the Salaga DA Primary/JHS. The scope of renovation includes re-roofing, floor screeding, replacement of windows and doors and painting;
- recruited three thousand (3000) Arabic Instructors. They have been provided with identification and given orientation before deployment;
- undertook medical screening for 1,333 pupils in ten (10) schools across Zongo communities in the Greater Accra Region. Ten (10) additional schools are to be covered in Inner-city communities;
- Organized clean-up exercises in Nima. About forty (40) tons of solid waste was evacuated;
- facilitated the Zongo league staged in Kumasi; and
- negotiated peace deals in Ahwia, Tafo and Asawase.

4.0 EXPENDITURE OUTTURN FOR 2018

For the year 2018, a total amount of 102,259,972.00 was allocated to the Ministry of Inner City and Zongo Development. Out of this amount, GH¢6,437,140.09 was utilized, representing 6.29% of the approved budget, leaving a variance of GH¢94,822,831.91. Details of the expenditure outturn is depicted in table 1 below:

Table 1: Budget outturn as at September, 2018

ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION	APPROVED BUDGET (A) GH¢	RELEASED GH¢	UTILISED (C) GH¢	VARIANCE (A-C) GH¢	%
Compensation for Employees	350,000.00	210,153.09	210,153.09	139,846.91	40
Used of Goods & Services	16,409,972.00	7,226,987.00	6,226,987.00	9,182,985.00	56
Capital Expenditure	85,500,000.00	0	0	85,500,000.00	100
TOTAL	102,259,972.00	7,437,140.09	6,437,140.09	94,822,831.91	93

5.0 OUTLOOK FOR 2019

For 2019 and in furtherance of its mandate, the Ministry of Inner City and Zongo Development has outlined a number of programmes and activities to be undertaken as follows:

- Conduct two specific researches on topical issues related to Inner City communities;
- Compile data/information on the state of Inner –City communities;
- Commission research to identify, catalogue and codify significant cultural and heritage assets of selected Inner-City communities;
- Produce two documentaries on the mandate, programmes and projects of the Ministry;
- Organize a media soiree;
- Participate in a National Policy Summit;
- Organize one Meet-the-Press event with the Ministry of Information;

- Undertake ten Media and community campaigns to promote positive attitudinal; change and instill patriotism in Inner-City communities;
- Publish two feature stories on Inner-City communities; and
- Monitor media networks.

The Zongo Development Fund (ZoDF) amongst others would also undertake a number of activities in line with its mandate for 2019 as follows:

- provide for internal management of the ZoDF Secretariat;
- conduct development needs assessment in selected zongo communities;
- conduct baseline survey in selected zongo communities;
- provide eight hundred (800) youth with assorted vocational skills training programmes;
- provide basic tools for five hundred (500) youth trained in assorted vocational skills;
- provide five hundred (500) youth with entrepreneurship and business development training;
- provide agriculture input support to hundred (100) people
- provide training for two hundred (200) poultry farmers;
- provide start up support to fifty (50) poultry farmers;
- provide support for animal husbandry to thirty (30) people;
- maintain three thousand (3000) Arabic instructors;
- enroll five hundred (500) people into Adult Alternative Education Programme;
- provide support for extra tuition for hundred (100) students;
- provide thirty (30) scholarships for brilliant but needy students in the Zongo Communities;
- rehabilitate and reintegrate thirty (30) youth in drug abuse;
- conduct public education and training on waste sorting for ten (10) communities;
- establishment of five (5) waste sorting centres;

- list heritage assets in Zongo Communities;
- organise a Zongo Soccer League;
- hold five (5) ethno-religious dialogue sessions;

5.1 Financial outlook for 2019

For the year 2019, a total amount of One Hundred and Nine Million, Nine Hundred and Forty-Two Thousand, and Two Ghana Cedis (GH¢109, 942,002) has been allocated to the Ministry. Details of the breakdown is captured in table 2 below:

Table 2: Details of 2019 Allocation

No	Item	Amount (GH¢)
1	Compensation of Employees	4,940,000
2	Goods and Services	59,972,001
3	CAPEX	45,030,001
	Total	109,942,002

6.0 OBSERVATIONS

6.1 Release of Seed Money for the Zongo Development Fund

In response to how much money has been released to the Zongo Development Fund, the Chief Director responded that nothing has been released thus far but explained that the Secretariat of the Fund has now been made functional. Funds spent in 2018 on the Fund were from the Ministry to provide accommodation and to set up the Secretariat. The Chief Executive Officer for the Fund is now at post. It is expected that going forward, funds would be released to enable the Fund undertake its mandate.

6.2 Liaising with other Ministries

The Committee observed that during the year, the Ministry undertook a number of activities that could have been done by other Sector Ministries. These activities include

construction of storm drains, dredging, and building of schools, among others. The Committee was of the view that if these projects are seeded to the relevant Ministries, the Ministry would be able to make much more impact in the zongo communities and the inner cities

The Ministry indicated that these projects were undertaken due to the critical nature of the interventions to the respective zongo communities. The Committee was assured that the Ministry collaborates with other Ministries to help address the needs of the zongo communities.

6.3 Allocation to the Zongo Development Fund

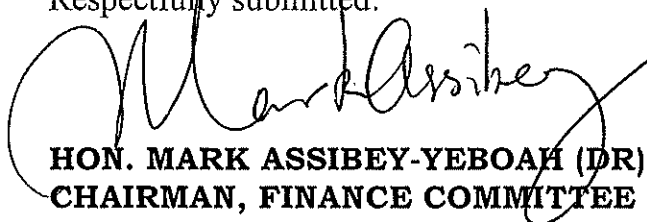
The Chief Director informed the committee that the allocation to the Zongo Development Fund is part of the Ministry's Budget. Out of the Ministry's budget of GH¢109,942,002, a total amount of GH¢106,875,000 has been appropriated to the Fund. The Chief Director conceded that the remaining GH¢3,067,002 would not be enough to meet the other obligations of the Ministry.

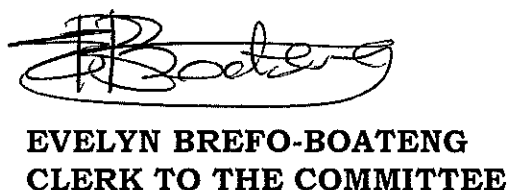
The Technical team from the Ministry of Finance agreed with the Committee that the Zongo Development Fund should be separated from the Ministry's allocation in future.

7.0 CONCLUSION

The Committee, after careful examination of the Budget Estimates of the Inner-City and Zongo Development, recommends that the House approves the sum of One Hundred and Nine Million, Nine Hundred and Forty-Two Thousand and Two Ghana Cedis (GH¢109,942,002.00) for the implementation of the programmes of the Ministry of Inner City and Zongo Development of the 2019 fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted.


HON. MARK ASSIBEY-YEBOAH (DR)
CHAIRMAN, FINANCE COMMITTEE


EVELYN BREFO-BOATENG
CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE