

NOV 13 - NOV 17 2023

MINISTRY OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES



MLNR WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER



HON. SAMUEL A. JINAPOR, MP

**MINISTER FOR LANDS AND
NATURAL RESOURCES**

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

(HEADLINES)

- **2024 BUDGET PRESENTATION;
GHANA MAKES STRIDES IN THE
MINES & FORESTRY SECTOR -
FINANCE MINISTER**
- **GGSA LAUNCHES 110TH
ANNIVERSARY**
- **MINERALS COMMISSION'S
STATEMENT ON KAKUM NATIONAL
PARK**



2024 BUDGET PRESENTATION; GHANA MAKES STRIDES IN THE MINES & FORESTRY SECTOR - FINANCE MINISTER

The Minister for Finance, Hon. Ken Ofori-Atta has on Wednesday, 15th November, 2023 has presented the budget statement and economic policy of Ghana for the 2024 fiscal year.

Speaking on efforts made by Government in the Mining sector, the Minister said the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources through the Minerals Commission has installed 69 tracking devices to track the movement of earth moving machines and mining equipment nationwide, in compliance with the Minerals and Mining Regulations 2020 (L.I. 2404).

He also mentioned that Minerals Commission procured and distributed 5,087,706 hybrid oil-palm seedlings and 1,750,000 coconut seedlings to beneficiary farmers in the Ashanti, Central and Eastern Regions under the Alternative Livelihood Project. In addition, the Commission reclaimed a total of 462.01ha of degraded mined-out areas in the Ashanti, Central and Western North Regions. Adding that in 2024, the Commission will continue to reclaim more degraded mined-out areas.

On the Gold for Oil, the Minister said the Bank of Ghana has purchased 17.89 tonnes of gold to boost the country's gold reserves. The move, he said has contributed immensely to stabilising the cedi/dollar exchange rate and reduced price of petroleum (gasoil) from GHs.23 per litre to GHs 12 per litre.

Touching on developments in the Ghana Integrated Aluminium Development Corporation (GIADEC) he said through their strategic partners, GIADEC has completed the Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE) Report that has been prepared in line with Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC) standards.

He indicated that the results of the report shows significant bauxite quantities making the project a commercially viable one. In 2024, the corporation along with their partners will undertake the drilling and MRE for Project 3 and commence Valco retrofit and Project 2 mine development.

He continued with the Ghana Integrated Iron & Steel Development Corporation (GIISDEC) which he said has completed a strategic conceptual layout to guide growth, promotion, and development of the integrated iron and the steel industry.

The Master plan has been reviewed and given a seal of approval by KPMG and ready for the industry. He added that to ensure that various mineral discoveries and inferred deposits of iron ore are commercially viable, a high-level Mineral Resource study has been commissioned by GIISDEC working with its Private Partners.

This capital intensive activity has been offloaded to Ghanaian Private Partners to produce a standard Bankable report at no cost to Government of Ghana. This is to ensure that the Integrated Iron and Steel Industry (IISI) is not faced with the continuous decline of domestic production and processing of metallic minerals and the associated dependence on foreign supplies for our needs.

The Finance Minister opined that a new and exciting opportunity in the sector is Ghana's newfound wealth in lithium and graphite, which will be extracted in line with the Green Minerals Policy, to support our energy transition.

He revealed that on 19th October, 2023, Government granted its first concession for the mining of lithium, which is guaranteed to be a major contributor to Ghana's GDP from 2025.

On the Atlantic Lithium mining project, which is projected to produce some 360,000 tonnes of lithium a year, Government he noted has also negotiated a 10 percent royalty and a record-high 13 percent free carried interest for the State. The company will also pay one percent of its revenue and another one percent for the Growth and Stabilisation Levy.

Hon. Ofori Atta also disclosed that The Minerals Income Investment Fund, (MIIF) has acquired a 6 percent contributing interest in Atlantic Lithium's Ghana Portfolio. "This will lead us to a new negotiation posture for future extractive industry investments."

On the Forestry sector, the Hon. Ofori-Atta presented to Parliament that the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources organised the third edition of the Green Ghana Day Initiative in June, under the theme: "Our Forests, Our Health" with 11,531,914 seedlings including forest, fruit, ornamental and multi-purpose trees distributed for planting.

He updated the house that out of the seedlings distributed, 7,125,955 were for planting in the forest reserves whereas 4,404,717 were for the off-reserve landscapes.

In addition, he said the Lands and Natural Resources Ministry established a total area of 3,132ha of forest plantation under the National Afforestation Programme with 5.8 million seedlings, including ofram, emire, wawa, kokrodua, teak, cedrela, gmelina, cassia, eucalyptus and mahogany distributed.



GGSA LAUNCHES 110TH ANNIVERSARY

Launching the Anniversary on Thursday, 16th November 2023 on behalf of the Sector Minister, the Deputy Minister for Lands and Natural Resources, Hon. George Mireku Duker described in detail the precious and valuable contributions of the Ghana Geological Survey Authority to the country.

He spelt out the integral role of the GGSA in the discovery of major minerals resources in areas such as Obuasi, Tarkwa and Akwatia, indicating that but for the instrumental role the GGSA played in the mining sector, Ghana would not have made these major strides in its mining sector.

“Indeed, we cannot go without saying that the Ghana Geological Survey Authority has been instrumental in identifying potential mineral deposits, which have contributed significantly to Ghana's economic growth. For instance, their work discovered significant gold deposits in Tarkwa, Obuasi, and Prestea areas, leading to increased mining activities that have created jobs for thousands of Ghanaians over the past century,” he said.

Touching on the theme of the Anniversary, "Ghana's Sustainable Industrial and Socio-economic Transformation: The Pivotal Role of Ghana", Hon. Mireku Duker explained that the country's transition from the current status-quo in the mining sector to green mining places a lot of responsibility on the GGSA to execute its duties effectively.

He outlined some major policy interventions by government aimed at the enhancing and increasing the country's benefit from the mining sector. He charged the GGSA to make its present felt in the socio-economic development of the country.

Whiles assuring the GGSA of the Ministry's support, he charged the management to engage with stakeholders in order to ensure smooth implementation of the Legislative Instrument that will lead to the effective operationalization of Act 2016.

“The Government recognises that, for GGSA to be more responsive and to contribute meaningfully to the developmental agenda of the Government through the provision of up-to-date geoscientific data, there is the need to enact Legislative Instruments (LIs) to help operationalise the Ghana Geological Survey Authority Act, 2016 (Act 928). I want to assure everyone that the Ministry will be available to provide the necessary support to realise this vision, not just for the benefit of GGSA but for Mother Ghana.,” he said.

The GGSA must continue to strengthen collaboration and stakeholder engagements with the Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies, Traditional Authorities and other Government Agencies to make the implementation process a smooth one.

During his welcome address, Mr. Isaac Kuuwan Mwinbelle, the Director-General of GGSA, disclosed plans for the commemoration of the 110th-year anniversary. He outlined the Anniversary celebration which will feature series of awareness initiatives, forums, and an International conference that will mark the climax of the year-long celebrations.

Mr Mwinbelle recounted the story behind the establishment and successes of the GGSA, highlighting their integral role in the setting up of key and strategic national assets like the Akosombo Dam, Kpone Dam, Accra-Tema Motorway and Tema Harbour, among others.

He spoke of the commitment by the current management to ensure the full operationalization of the Act 2016 through the passing of a Legislative Instrument.

He also mentioned that his outfit is in process of firming up a ten year strategic plan that will place the GGSA in a position where it can play its role effectively and contribute to national growth.

He admitted that the GGSA's will continue to liaise with the Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies to ensure that siting of structures are done in accordance with safety protocols.

The Board Chair of GGSA, Mr P. Y. Amoako said “in an era where the conversation around climate change the economic sustainability is loudest, the GGSA 's role in geo-hazard mitigation has become increasingly crucial with the monitoring of seismic activities and geo-hazards to safeguard our communities and critical infrastructure.

“Our work in land-use planning ensures that our geological responses are developed responsibly, minimizing environmental impact and maximizing societal benefits”.

MINERALS COMMISSION
PRESS STATEMENT
RE: MINING COMPANY TARGETS KAKUM
NATIONAL PARK FOR MINING

The attention of the Minerals Commission has been drawn to publications on social media that some Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in the country have vehemently kicked against the attempt by a mining firm to mine in the Kakum National Park in the Central Region.

According to the CSOs, the move follows an application by the High Street Ghana Limited to the Minerals Commission for a license to mine in the Kakum National Park.

The Commission wishes to inform the CSOs and the public that the application by Hight Street Mining Company Limited was rejected and therefore cannot be processed or considered whatsoever.

Consequently, the Commission has deleted the application from the online mining cadastre.

The Commission wishes to assure the public that no mineral right whether for prospecting or mining shall be considered or granted in the Kakum National Park.

Signed.

MARTIN KWAKU AYISI
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **LAUNCH OF BOSOME FREHO COMMUNITY MINING - WEDNESDAY 22ND NOV 2023.**
- **LANDS MINISTRY TO HOST PRE- COP 28 EVENT ON THURSDAY, 23RD NOVEMBER 2023 IN ACCRA.**
- **2023 LAUNCH OF E - JOBS4ALL GHANAIAN YOUTH IN MINING REGIONS - TUESDAY, 28 NOV. 2023 AT AICC.**
- **COP28 – 30TH NOVEMBER – 12TH DECEMBER, 2023, AT THE EXPO CITY, DUBAI.**

SECTOR MINISTER & HIS DEPUTIES



Hon. Samuel A. Jinapor (MP)
Minister – Lands & Natural Resources



Hon. Benito Owusu-Bio (MP)
*Deputy Minister in charge of
Lands & Forestry*



Hon. George Mireku Duker (MP)
Deputy Minister in charge of Mines

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2023

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AGENCIES UNDER THE MINISTRY



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