



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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PRESS RELEASE

GACC CALLS ON GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE TIMELY COMPLETION OF DACF SUPPORTED PROJECTS IN BIBIANI AND SEWFI-WIAWSO

The Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition (GACC) calls on Government to urgently commit to ensuring the timely completion of eleven (11) District Assembly Common Fund (DACF) supported projects in the Bibiani- Anhwiaso-Bekwai District (4 Projects) and the Sewfi Wiawso Municipality (7 Projects) of the Western Region. These projects, awarded between 2010 and 2013 with expected average completion period of two (2) years may not be completed any time soon. Out of the twelve projects monitored, only one – the Humjibre Kindergarten Classroom project in Bibiani-Anhwiaso-Bekwai District – had been completed. Three others – the Kojina and Brekuline Classroom Block projects, and the Municipal Chief Executive’s (MCE) Residence in the Sefwi Wiawso Municipality – had seen some appreciable level of work done on them. All the others had not been worked on due to some observed delays including:

- Delays in the disbursements of the DACF – the NHIS building at Wiawso, the stores at Dwenase, and the Aboanidua 3-Unit Classroom Block (all in the Sefwi Wiawso Municipality)
- Application for variations by contractors owing to the delay in receipt of funds – the Nurses Hostel at Asafo in the Sefwi Wiawso municipality, and the three-winged business centre in the Bibiani-Anhwiaso-Bekwai district.
- Legal tussles between contractors and the Assembly – the Slaughter House project at Bibiani

These came to light during the second monitoring visits undertaken by the Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition (GACC) and members of the **Local Accountability Networks (LANets)** between September 2014 to February 2015 as part of activities of the Ghana Local Government and Decentralization Programme (LOGODEP) funded by the USAID on *“Enhancing the capacity of CSOs to effectively engage District Assemblies to ensure transparency and accountability”* in Bibiani- Anhwiaso-Bekwai District and the Sewfi Wiawso Municipality in the Western Region.

GACC is of the view that these delays and subsequent challenges could be avoided if timely disbursements are made to the Assemblies. This will also prevent the increased project costs experienced through contract price variations; ensure efficient use of public resources at the district level; timely and quality project delivery. Ultimately, it will help attain the socio-economic aims of the project to the beneficiaries and the nation at large.

The **Local Accountability Network (LANet)** is a citizen group initiative of GACC. The LANet initiative promotes active citizens participation in local governance through collaboration between Citizens and the Local Government Authorities. The LANet members are equipped to monitor service delivery and development works at local level and use the findings to engage Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) for improved service delivery and quality development.

SGND

Linda Ofori-Kwafo
Executive Secretary

ABOUT GACC

The Ghana Anti-corruption Coalition (GACC) is a cross-sectoral grouping of public, private and civil society organizations with the sole aim of building a national effort to confront the problem of corruption and devise effective control measures. GACC seeks to facilitate anti-corruption activities in Ghana through the concerted efforts of its membership and collaboration with other stakeholders.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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