



MiDA NEWS



The official newsletter for Ghana Compact II

June 2016 Vol. 1 Issue 2



ECG PSP Roadshow held in Accra

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Work Commences on Utility GIS for EGG

Ghana Power Compact Data Quality Review

ECG PSP Pre-qualification Bid Opening

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ECG PSP ROADSHOW HELD IN ACCRA

The Millennium Development Authority, MiDA, has organised a Road Show for prospective investors seeking to manage, operate and invest in Ghana's largest power distributor, Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG). The Roadshow, held in Accra, is an event under the Private Sector Participation in ECG activity within the ECG Financial and Operational Turnaround (EFOT) Project, which is one of six major projects under the Ghana Power Compact Programme.

Over 150 participants, including ministers of state, government officials, representatives from the Ministries of Power, Finance, Justice and Attorney-General, Gender, Children and Social Protection, management officials of ECG, PURC and Energy Commission attended the event. Local and foreign organisations that have expressed interest in the Private Sector Participation (PSP) in ECG transaction, development partners and financial institutions were also present.

In his welcome address, Ing. Owura Sarfo, Chief Executive Officer of MiDA, expressed his pleasure that so many of the invitees had honoured the request to attend the Roadshow. "I see today's event as part of the process to positively transform Ghana's Power sector" he said. Ing. Sarfo explained that the Road Show was to provide more information on the transaction and to give prospective investors an opportunity to meet other investors, form strong alliances and to also facilitate the promotion of local content

... Hon. John Jinapor- Deputy Minister for Power, commended MiDA for putting the event together and reiterated government's commitment to the PSP in ECG transaction.



Government of Ghana



requirement in the PSP transaction.

Launching the Road Show, Hon. John Jinapor- Deputy Minister for Power, commended

MiDA for putting the event together and reiterated government's commitment to the PSP in ECG transaction. He said "government's objective for the PSP in ECG is to have a technically and financially sound ECG, which is key to making Ghana's power sector a vital engine of the country's development." "I urge everyone present here to take advantage of the networking opportunity provided here to deliberate on ways to collaborate and take advantage of the opportunities that the project presents particularly with regards to local content requirements." Hon. Jinapor said.

As part of processes towards selecting a concessionaire for the transaction, MiDA recently published, in the Ghanaian and foreign print media, a request to pre-qualify (RfQ) for selection of a concessionaire to operate, manage and invest in ECG. A presentation explaining the RfQ process was delivered by Julius Kpekpena, Chief Operating Officer of MiDA. He explained that the RfQ spells out the criteria to qualify companies that have expressed interest in the PSP in ECG transaction. Companies that have expressed interest in the transaction, also known as bidders, will be shortlisted following the RfQ to submit their proposals on how they intend to operate the concession under the terms and conditions highlighted in the Request for Proposals (RfP)

Mr Kpekpena also said that submissions for both the RfQ and the RfP will be reviewed by an independent panel of reviewers constituted for each process. He emphasized that MiDA is waiting to receive the credentials of nominated panel members from agencies and institutions with expertise in reviewing procurement processes of this nature.

Prospective investors or bidders who attended the event acknowledged that the roadshow had been worthwhile and are looking forward to the processes leading to the award of the concession to the winning bidder.



ECG PSP ACCRA ROADSHOW EVENT IN PICTURES



Deputy minister of power: Hon. John Jinapor addressing participants



Mr. S. Afram, EFOT project manager, commencing the event with a word of prayer



MiDA COO: Julius K. Kpekpena



Pamela Djamson-Tettey
Director, Communications and Outreach



Elizabeth Feleke
MCC Deputy Country Director



From left: Mr. Fuseni Abu; Procurement Director, Mr. Eric Asare; Distribution Projects Director, Mr. Samuel Afram; EFOT Project Manager





Deputy minister of finance: Hon. Mrs. Mona Quartey delivering a speech



MIDA CEO: Ing. Owura K. Sarfo



L - Mr. Michael Awuah R - Dr. Asamoah-Baah



MD of ECG: Robert Dwamena delivering his remarks



PARTICIPANTS COMMEND MiDA FOR PSP ROADSHOW

Participants who attended the PSP in ECG Roadshow held at the Alisa Hotel in Accra have expressed their pleasure at the initiative for the event. They were pleased with the event. The PSP in ECG Roadshow was organised by MiDA, in collaboration with the Government of Ghana and ECG, to provide prospective investors with more information on the transaction and to give them an opportunity to meet other investors, form strong alliances and to also facilitate the promotion of local content requirement in the PSP transaction.

More than 80, out of about 170 participants at the event, represented various companies that have expressed interest in the concession arrangement in ECG. Other participants were representatives from the Ministries of Power, Finance, Justice and Attorney-General, Gender and Social Protection, management officials of ECG, PURC and Energy Commission. Also attending were personnel from local banks and financial advisory institutions.

A representative from Enel Energy, Marco, congratulated MiDA for organising the Roadshow, saying

ECG PSP Pre-Qualification Bid Opening *Event in Pictures*

9th May, 2016



WORK COMMENCES ON DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A UTILITY GIS FOR ECG.

MiDA, in collaboration with the Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG) has commissioned a Consultant to define the requirements and design a utility Geographic Information System (GIS) for ECG. The design and installation of the utility GIS is an activity under the Modernizing Utility Operations sub-project under the ECG Financial and Operational Turnaround (EFOT) Project.

The objective for this activity is to enable ECG manage its distribution system efficiently; help the company respond promptly to emergency faults, easily identify customer locations and power thefts, properly manage its assets and inventory, and perform engineering analysis.

A GIS can be defined as a “computer system used for capturing, storing, checking, and displaying data related to positions on the earth’s surface.” GIS can show many different kinds of data on one map which enables one to more easily visualize, question, analyze, and interpret data to understand relationships, patterns, and trends. There is a growing global interest in and awareness of the economic and strategic value

of GIS.

The installation of a utility GIS will enable ECG record and store data including its distribution system asset, attributes and characteristics; customer locations and other characteristics for planning and operations purposes. The GIS system will also record and store ECG’s asset data in the form of digitized maps and other engineering formats for use as real-time management of ECG’s asset.

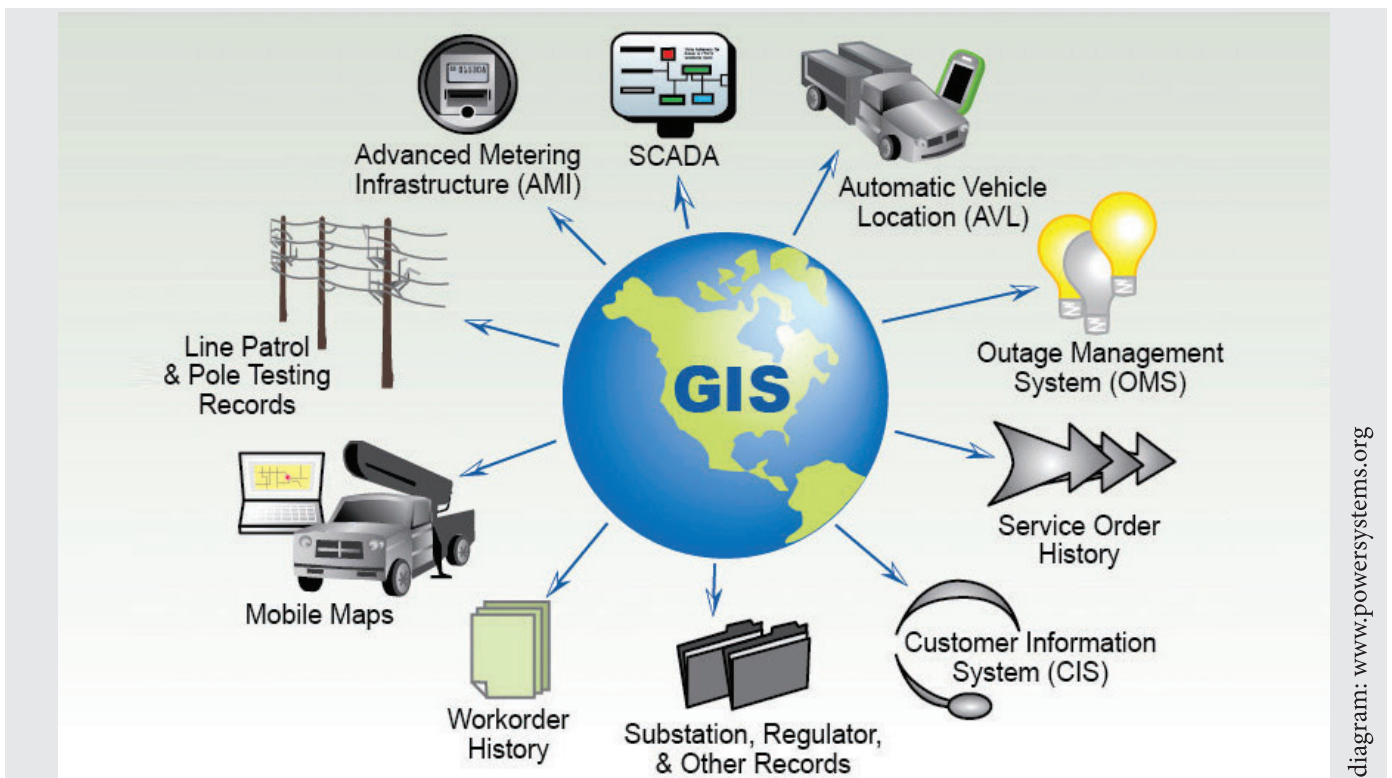


Eric Asare - Director, Distribution Projects

There are expectations that by September 2016, a utility GIS infrastructure will be ready following which implementation shall begin.

Current Challenges

Presently, ECG’s electric distribution network and its business processes are not geographically referenced, i.e. its assets are not recorded and



stored electronically and defined by their longitudinal and latitudinal coordinates. As a result, ECG is unable to fully benefit from the use of modern electric utility business tools. ECG does not have accurate maps for large portions of its electric distribution networks largely because of the absence of a central network data repository. Business processes are essentially manual, or are housed in stand-alone computerized systems and therefore system data maintenance has become a real challenge in ECG.

How will ECG Benefit from a Utility GIS?

- A utility GIS will help ECG to manage and map the location of thousands of kilometers of overhead and underground circuits.
- With GIS, ECG's utility assets such as poles, transformers, substations, etc, can be linked directly to the customer information system, and this will allow the company to proactively monitor faults, work orders, vegetation management, as well as planned and unplanned outages.
- ECG can use a utility GIS to determine the right route for electric lines, determine suitable sites for locating new feeders, as well as new technology such as smart grid sensors and smart meters.
- GIS can help ECG produce accurate designs, and determine the right location for a substation and its capacity, as well as load distribution and load forecasting.
- GIS will enable ECG to identify problems that cause outages, and improve customer satisfaction.
- GIS will enhance ECG's ability to identify fault locations and ultimately reduce the lead time in service restoration after the occurrence of faults. This is evident in the relative ease with which the GIS system can be used in conjunction with other operational installations to identify and isolate a fault to ensure that only the faulted area of the network is isolated whilst the healthy portions remain in service.
- The use of GIS will increase the rate of new customer connections as it will reduce the lead time required in planning and executing new service connections.
- GIS will help ECG to improve upon its load management program by providing engineers and planners with accurate and timely infor-

mation on the network performance. This will be particularly useful during peak demand periods when several portions of the network are overloaded whereas the loading on other areas are relatively light. It is envisaged that these overloading and unbalanced loading conditions can be mitigated with the use of a utility GIS.

- Installation of GIS will help ECG in reducing commercial losses by addressing issues such as illegal connections, non-payment of electricity bills, etc.
- ECG can perform accurate projections for future energy needs with the help of GIS.
- Customer satisfaction shall improve since outage response time declines with the help of GIS.
- Commercial losses shall decline since it becomes easy to identify power theft
- The turnaround time in completing network update after construction shall reduce.
- Due to optimize vegetation maintenance, there shall be improvement in network reliability.
- GIS shall enhance ECG's operations with the provision of outage information to a wider set of decision makers/users.
- Improved communications with consumers and other external parties.

How will Customers Benefit from a Utility GIS?

- Customer satisfaction shall increase since it becomes easy for ECG to identify and fix faults in a timely manner
- The billing system shall improve and customers shall be provided with accurate bills.
- Business entities shall see growth since power supply becomes reliable with GIS.
- The duration to connect new customers shall reduce with the help of Utility GIS.
- Loyalty shall be established between ECG and its customers by the smart data system Utility GIS provides.
- Since most modern businesses and homes depend on electricity, the improvement in ECG services will greatly enhance businesses and improve the income and living standards of its customers.

Monitoring and Evaluation & Economics (M&EE)

Ghana Power Compact Data Quality Review

As the second Millennium Challenge Compact Program for Ghana, dubbed 'Ghana Power Compact', is about to be implemented, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) has a crucial role to play to ensure that agreed program objectives are not only SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-Framed) but also yield the desired impacts. MiDA has developed an M&E Plan to guide the implementation process. It is important to ensure that the quality of data and indicators that will be used as a part of the M&E Plan is accurate. To achieve this, MiDA has commissioned a Data Quality Review (DQR) process led by CRISIL Infrastructure Advisory Ltd (CRISIL), an independent quality assurance consultant that has significant experience in spearheading such processes. The DQR will inform the Ghana M&E Plan.

DQR is a mechanism used to review and analyze the utility, objectivity and integrity of data that provide information for project performance measurement. In other words, the process is used to ensure that data for monitoring and evaluation of project activities are useful, objective and credible.

The mechanism hence ensures that the underlying data that provide information on progress of project activities and support decision-making by managers are of good quality and of the required standards.

The DQR Consultant is to review all Compact indicators, data and data collection methodologies with a view to providing recommendations on how to improve the quality of data used as part of the M&E Plan to MiDA and its Implementing Entities (IEs). In addition, the DQR Consultant is to produce three main reports, viz:

- i. a DQR Report outlining key findings observed in the field and make recommendations,
- ii. a Skills Requirements and Capacity Building Report which will outline specific interventions for MiDA and the Implementing Agencies cov



Dr. Kofi Marfo
Director, M&EE



DQR consultant and NEDCO official reviewing NEDCO Report to improve data quality

ering skill required, training areas to be imparted, equipment to be procured and a strategy for continuous improvement on data, and

iii. a DQR Manual which will serve as a guide for future data quality reviews.

The DQR process was initiated with the signing of the DQR Contract with CRISIL on November 2015 and the final deliverable is expected by June 2016. So far, The DQR process has involved several and thorough engagements between the consultant on one side and MiDA M&E and the key departments within the institutions (ECG, NEDCo, Ministry of Power, GRIDCo, and Energy Commission) providing data on the Compact on the other side.

The consultant over the period has assessed the processes of data generation, transmission, storage, retrieval and dissemination by the various IEs. Following this, a validation workshop was held, during which the IEs generally accepted the consultant's report and made some recommendations.

The DQR process is on schedule. A major deliverable - DQR Final has been submitted to MiDA for their formal reviews and approvals. The Skills Requirements and Capacity Building Report and Data Quality Review Manual are outstanding deliverables to be submitted over the remaining contract

period.

According to the M&E and Economics Director, Dr. Kofi Marfo, the process so far has been successful. "I am impressed and appreciative of the support and cooperation provided by the IEs" He said. Dr. Marfo added that the MiDA M&E Team and other stakeholders are currently reviewing the DQR Final Report to ensure that all Compact indicators have met the quality standards defined in the MCC's Policy Guidelines for Monitoring and Evaluation of Compacts and Threshold Programs. The review would also ensure that every data underlying performance information meets the quality standards of validity, reliability, timeliness, precision and integrity.

With the DQR on course, the Ghana Power Compact is on track to produce reliable data on the performance of projects. MiDA and MCC will thoroughly review recommendations from the reports, which will serve as guides to improve the quality of data gathering and reporting, leading to quality and accurate interpretation of results from the Compact.



MiDA M&E officer; Godfred Owusu Adjei and DQR consultant in a meeting with NEDCo officers

COUNCIL OF STATE PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR COMPACT II PROJECTS

Members of the Council of State have pledged their support for the Ghana Power Compact (Compact II) and also declared their intention to be advocates for the Compact projects. The assurances were made at a stakeholder meeting the Council of State held on 27th January, 2016 with a delegation of MiDA officials at the Christiansborg Castle in Osu, Accra.

The meeting, which is part of its ongoing stakeholder outreach was requested by MiDA. It sought to introduce and share information about the Power Compact and its various projects, explain the Private Sector Participation (PSP) activity in ECG, and discuss the role of the Council of State in the implementation of the Compact II Projects.

Ing. Owura Sarfo, CEO of MiDA led a nine member MiDA delegation comprising Julius Kpekpena, Chief Operating Officer; Yvonne Fiadjoe, General Counsel; Pamela Djamson-Tettey, Director Communication and Outreach; Dr. Cherub Antwi-Nsiah, Director Gender and Social Inclusion; Mr. Mike Awuah, Reform Manager; Frank Boadi, Communication and Outreach Officer; Frank Botchway, Communication and Web Officer and Tanko Mohammed, IT Manager.

Ing. Sarfo explained to the members that MiDA recognises the key role the Council of State plays in providing advice to the president. He also said that the composition of the Council's membership does not only equip it with the expertise and experience to provide counsel on several key areas of the state, but that enables it to also gauge the feelings of different regions on national issues. Hence it was imperative that MiDA engaged with members on the Power Compact, which seeks to provide solutions to the root causes of the power crisis the country has had to grapple with over the past three years.

Madam Cecelia Johnson, chairperson of the



Madam Cecelia Johnson
Chairperson of the Council of State

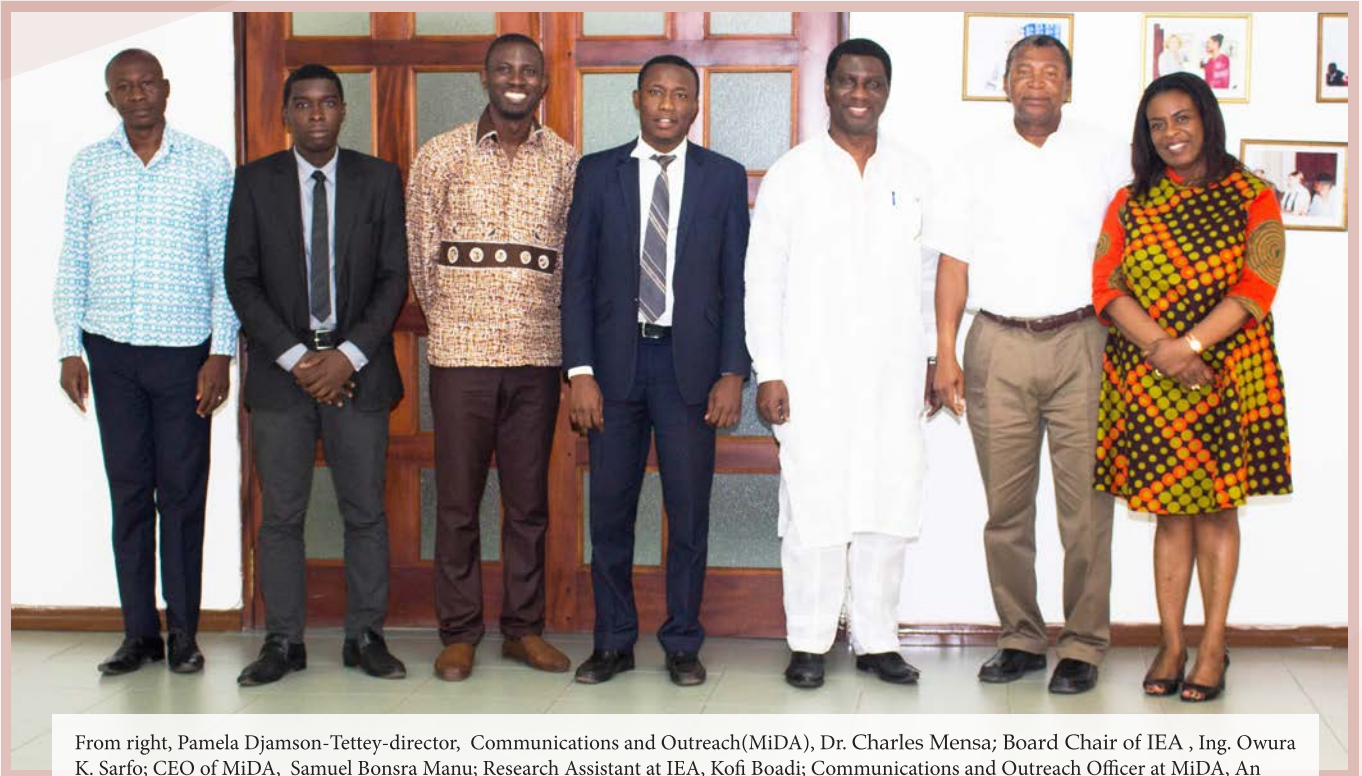
Council, acknowledged that the meeting had been well conceived and that it was important for MiDA to also clarify at first-hand to the members the various misconceptions that had been raised by several media about the about

The members praised MiDA for the good work done under Compact I and asked that MiDA ensures that Ghanaians benefit fully from Compact II.

the Power Compact.

Other Members also recounted the benefits their regions had received from the implementation of Compact I. The members praised MiDA for the good work done under Compact I and asked that MiDA ensures that Ghanaians benefit fully from Compact II. They also requested more information and continuous engagement on Compact II in order to serve as advocates.

MiDA engages with Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA)



From right, Pamela Djamson-Tettye-director, Communications and Outreach(MiDA), Dr. Charles Mensa; Board Chair of IEA , Ing. Owura K. Sarfo; CEO of MiDA, Samuel Bonsra Manu; Research Assistant at IEA, Kofi Boadi; Communications and Outreach Officer at MiDA, An Official of IEA, and Clement Atagra; Assistant Communications Manager at Stratcomm Africa

MiDA engaged with the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA), Ghana's premier public policy institute on the Ghana Power Compact on 19th February, 2016 as part of planned outreach activities with identified stakeholders of the Compact II projects, especially the PSP in ECG.

MiDA was represented at the meeting by its CEO, Ing Owura Sarfo; Communication and Outreach Director, Pamela Djamson-Tettye; Communication and Outreach Officer, Frank Boadi; and Communication and Web Officer, Frank Botchway. The founder and Board Chair of IEA, Dr Charles Mensa, with other IEA staff met with the MiDA team.

As is characteristic of previous engagements, the CEO delivered a PowerPoint presentation touching on key themes including an introduction of MiDA, its mandate under Compact II as well as its functions. He also introduced

the various projects under the Power Compact and discussed the rationale for the PSP activity in ECG. Ing. Sarfo clarified the misconceptions concerning the Power Compact and the recent tariff related conversation which had been associated with the Compact activities in public discourses.

After the interactive presentation, Dr. Mensa affirmed the IEA's support for the Compact Projects and pledged to be advocates of the PSP activity in ECG. The IEA also communicated its preparedness to speak publicly on the transaction should the need arise.

Other stakeholders engaged by MiDA in this Quarter include the Public Utilities Workers Union (PUWU), the Ghana Employers Association (GEA) and other individuals who have shown interest in Compact II and the PSP in ECG specifically.

Ghana Power Compact will Create Conducive Environment To Attract More IPPs

The CEO of Millennium Development Authority (MiDA), Ing. Owura K. Sarfo has said that the Ghana Power Compact will create an enabling environment that will attract more Independent Power Producers (IPPs) to the country to support power generation in Ghana. Ing. Sarfo said this at the 3rd edition of Crystal Ball Africa, organized by AB & David Africa and held at the Movenpick Ambassador Hotel in Accra on 14th January 2016. The event was themed “Rising with Africa”.

Participants were corporate executives, financial services advisors, business and transaction advisors, lawyers, government officials, regulators, bankers, financial analysts, entrepreneurs and investors.

In his opening remarks, Ing. Sarfo endorsed the appropriateness of the theme for the event, saying that it was time for Africa to rise. He emphasised the strong relation between the availability of Power and the ability of Africa rising to meet its potential.

Also present at the event was Ms. Yvonne Fiadjoe, General Counsel of MiDA, who together with the CEO gave a presentation on “The power to rise: How the Millennium Challenge Compact can make the African power sector work—The case of Ghana.”

The presentation introduced participants to the



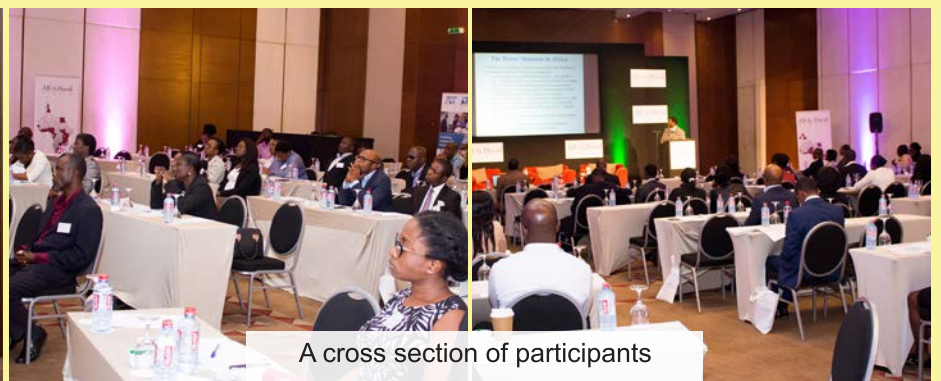
Ms. Yvonne Fiadjoe, General Counsel of MiDA delivering her presentation

nature of Ghana’s power sector, identified its attendant challenges, and highlighted the various project interventions in the Ghana Power Compact designed to address the challenges. Participants were also told about procurement opportunities, as well as the legal instruments governing the constitution of MiDA and the various legal agreements binding the Ghana Power Compact.

Crystal Ball Africa sought to provide insights into what businesses and executives could expect in the year 2016, examined the real threats and analysed emerging opportunities to help participants strategize appropriately for the year.



Ing. Owura K. Sarfo, CEO of MiDA Delivering his presentation at the event



A cross section of participants

MiDA Teambuilding Workshop

Solid teamwork is the basis for success in most modern organizations by leveraging the synergies that are produced as people collaborate. It is even more imperative in MiDA's case to engender the spirit of teamwork amongst staff given that the current workforce consists of people with different backgrounds and orientations who are expected to gel within the shortest possible time to facilitate efficient and effective Compact II implementation.

teambuilding training workshop for staff on 21st January, 2016 at the Alisa Hotel. The rationale of the training was to (1) help staff understand the importance of teamwork (2) help deal with conflict that may crop up and (3) engender team spirit amongst staff.

Management and staff used the opportunity to finalize discussions on the Vision, Mission and Values of MiDA to guide staff in the implementation of the Ghana Power Compact.

In the light of the above the Human Resource Department of MiDA organized a one-day



A cross section of MiDA Staff at the team building workshop

SITA CORP HANDS OVER SAP SOFTWARE TO MiDA

Sita Corp, a global player in the development of IT Software solutions, officially handed over an SAP software it has been developing for the Ghana Power Compact Programme to MiDA. A short handing over ceremony was organised by Sita Corp at MiDA's Board Room to commemorate the handover. The ceremony demonstrated that Sita Corp had fulfilled its obligations with the development of the programme and had handed over a clean and working system to MiDA. Mr John Boakye, Chief Finance Officer (CFO) at MiDA received the program from Srinivas Jinka, Project Manager at Sita Corp.



Mr. John Boakye (R), CFO at MiDA in a handshake with Srinivas Jinka (L), Project Manager at SITA CORP

Sita Corp has over 20 years of experience offering SAP implementation and services to organisations in various industries such as consumer goods, manufacturing, financial services, retail and public sector.

Following the ceremony, MiDA News (MN) had a chat with Srinivas Jinka (SJ), to find out more about the SAP programme and its usefulness to the Compact.

MN: Hello and welcome. Can you explain what the SAP PROGRAMME is?

SJ: SAP is a Management Information System (MIS) software. What we developed is the SWIFT Solution (SOFTWARE IMPLEMENTATION FAST TRACK) which is used by all major fortune 400 companies in the world. The programme is tailored for Compacts and has been used in the Malawi, Zambia and Indonesia Compacts. Ghana is the fourth Compact nation to implement the programme.

MN: What is the benefit of using the SAP?

SJ: A very good benefit of having the SWIFT Solution is budgetary control, i.e. keeping track of how you are spending money. It helps ensure that projects stay within budgets and within project time.

The programme will thus help MiDA manage its spending on the various projects; ascertain what they are spending on, and how they are spending. The programme will also help MiDA to produce reports to send to MCC. SAP will capture the activities in the projects, allow the project managers to plan costs, give projections on how much project

activities cost, and take approvals. It can also assist manage project sub activity tracking. SAP will help track project milestones, expenditure and reporting.

MN: Are there other benefits aside managing project spending?

SJ: The solution would support transparent procurement processes. A

project manager can use the system to identify procurements already started, those initiated but not started and the stages these projects are.

MN: Who will use the sap?

SJ: The programme will be primarily used by the Fiscal Agent and Procurement Agent of MiDA. The other users will be project directors, and the Finance and management personnel.

MN: How would SAP affect or improve MiDA's relationship project contractors?

SJ: A major benefit would be payments due contractors. The tracking component of the programme helps to track payments due contractors. Once contractors honour their deliverables SAP will notify MiDA of due payments to contractors based on their payment schedule. If everything is good, contractors should not have any problems and payments would happen in a timely fashion.

MN: How long has it taken to train users of the program?

SJ: There was two weeks of training for the MiDA personnel. This was completed in December 2015. We have had a week, after the training, to test the systems functionality. During the period, we dedicated sometime to capture historical data. There is always a learning curve. I would say it takes about 2-3 months to use the solution.

MN: What will be your final words?

SJ: The way other compacts have benefitted. It will make life easy for you. Do not keep anything pending. It takes time to learn but once you start capturing all the information and completed it will be just a click of a button. Using SAP efficiently will capture all the information needed for the users.

MiDA STAFF UNDERGO GENDER SENSITIZATION TRAINING

The Gender and Social Inclusion Unit of MiDA has organised a gender sensitization workshop for MiDA Staff. The two half day training sessions sought to enhance staff understanding of gender, erase biases and erroneous perceptions they may hold about gender and its related concepts. The training was also intended to highlight the importance of gender to MiDA and the success of the Compact. Fifty-five staff, comprising 18 females and 37 males participated in the workshop, which was organised in three group sessions for all levels of staff.

The Compact, signed between the Republic of Ghana and the United States of America, places Gender and Social Inclusion as a key requirement, ensuring that the program delivers positive social impacts through the six Compact Projects. Dr Cherub Antwi-Nsiah, Director Gender and Social Inclusion at MiDA and lead facilitator of the training, explained that “as an institution seeking to promote economic growth through the implementation of the Compact, it is important that staff are sensitized about gender, learn to embrace its concepts and become aware of the gendered issues in Ghana’s energy sector.”

The training adopted an experiential approach and applied participatory methods to create the awareness that gender was socially constructed. “We wanted staff to understand that gender is

socially constructed and therefore designed the training activities in a manner that would cause participants to reflect on their experiences of gender and to understand gender terms” Dr Antwi-Nsiah said.

Some activities participants engaged in included the childhood memory exercise

which caused participants to reflect on the first time they realized that there were differences between males and females. Participants also conducted a problem tree analysis in which they identified gendered problems and the institutions that perpetuated them.

Participants indicated that the training was very useful and has enhanced their understanding of gender. For some, the training dispelled notions that gender was only about women. According to Faustina Acheampong, the Front Desk Officer, the training was “an eye opener for me and has helped me to understand what gender means broadly and its related issues. I know that for some people, gender is all about women, but this training has helped clarify that gender is about both men and women.” Benjamin Botwe, a driver, also believes that the “training



Dr. Cherub Antwi-Nsiah
Director, Social and
Gender Inclusion

Management Team at the Gender Training



would help enhance our relationships with our wives and other women in our homes.”

Dr Antwi-Nsiah added that the training has supported in garnering more acceptance for mainstreaming gender in designing the project activities. “After the training, I have had project managers come to me to discuss gender issues within their projects and how these can be addressed. Having this understanding will help project managers appreciate better the recommendations that would be made in the Social

and Gender Integration Plan (SGIP)” she said.

The SGIP will identify approaches for regular, meaningful and inclusive consultations with women and other vulnerable or under-represented groups, consolidate findings and recommendations of Project-specific social and gender analyses and set forth strategies for incorporating the findings of into final Project designs.



Some staff of MiDA in a discussion at the Gender Training



MiDA OFFICIALS RECEIVE TRAINING ON ENGAGING THE MEDIA

Fifteen officials of MiDA have undergone a two day media training to enhance their media engagement skills. The training was organised to equip participants with the skills to communicate the goal and objectives of Compact II effectively through the media to the public.

The workshop, which was initiated by MiDA's Communication and Outreach Unit and facilitated by Skill Hive Africa (a subsidiary of Stratcomm Africa Group), trained the participants on how to communicate key messages and manage a media interview. They were also taken through exercises which prepared them on how to stay on the message, understand how to get the most out of a media engagement, and how to feel more confident in using the media.

Participants included Eric Asare, Director Distribution Projects, Benjamin Opoku, Director for Environment and Social Performance, and Dr Cherub Antwi-Nsiah, Director Gender and

Social Inclusion. Other participants were project managers, officers of the communication and outreach unit, and the Reform Unit Associate.

Ing. Owura Sarfo, CEO of MiDA, Julius Kpekpena, COO, Yvonne Fiadjoe General Counsel, Mawunyo Rubson, Director Generation Projects, Pamela Djamson-Tettey, Michael Awuah, Reform Unit Manager (all of whom had participated in an earlier training), and Dr Kofi Marfo joined the other participants on the second day of the training.

Effectively communicating the benefits of the Compact to Ghanaians, as well as other stakeholders, has been identified as key to



Pamela Djamson-Tettey
Director, Communications
& Outreach



Day 1 Training with Directors, Project Managers and Officers



Training facilitator leading Day 2 training with Executives, Directors, Project Managers and Officers

MiDA achieving stakeholder buy-in and being successful with the project. Compact II, which is also known as the Ghana Power Compact, seeks to address the constraints to the supply of adequate and reliable power in Ghana, and also address the attendant socio-economic and gender issues related to electric power.

Participants found the training useful with some saying that it was helpful and gave them a new perspective of how communication can support their functions. For Sylvester Ayayee, Project Manager for Energy Efficiency and Demand Side Management, "the training was very enlightening. It really opened my eyes to aspects of communication I had no idea about. I felt confident after day one, especially after the interview with the professional journalist; being put on the spot, learning about what to say and what not to say, and making sure that you sell your key message and that is why we are here. It was also very informative. I have become more confident." Dr Cherub Antwi-Nsiah, Director Gender and Social Inclusion, said she liked the training because participants "had hands on practice built into it, which always helps internalise points

Communicating the benefits of the Compact II to stakeholders, is key to achieving stakeholder buy-in

made." She added that the training made "me recognise that I need to break down my stakeholders some more, fine tune the messages to them because each might have different needs." Benjamin Opoku, Director Environment and Social Performance said "it is a training I will always want to be part of any time it is organised. The methodology, delivery, and examples were good."

A takeaway for participants from the training is the realisation that conveying a message to stakeholders is about simplicity, not jargons. That communicating with stakeholders calls for it to be done not from the sender's perspective, but from a viewpoint that considers the interests of stakeholders. These they believe will inform how to couch messages and have stakeholder buy-in.

There are plans to hold more training sessions over the course of the Compact to ensure that project managers and executives are well equipped to communicate appropriately so that Ghanaians and other stakeholders realise the benefits of the Ghana Power Compact.



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