



Forward Together

People of the Republic of Ghana, it is with humility and determination that we announce the intention of the Progressive Alliance for Ghana (PAG) to contest the next election. We are People Against Graft, an Nkrumaist inspired party, which is in the process of being officially registered for that purpose. Our name says it all, for we are an alliance of progressive forces, united by the desire to include Ghanaians both within the country and those overseas in better governance than we have seen since 1966.

Have you graduated from school without a job or a future? Are you a self-employed trader or driver worried that you will not have a pension after you retire? What keeps you up at night? Your children's education costs? Not having a house of your own? Are you concerned about the safety of you and your loved ones? Are you a farmer not receiving support from the authorities?

All credible indicators show that since 1966, the economy of this country has not served the broad masses of Ghanaians. While the NPP and NDC talk about economic growth, the PAG is focused on community economic development. Particularly since the beginning of the 4th Republic, we have had a paper democracy and continued flag independence. We have become a truly neo-colonial state, serving the interests of other countries at the expense of ordinary Ghanaians. We must restructure our economic relationship with the rest of the world by continuing from where Nkrumah left off and move up the manufacturing value chain. The PAG plans to usher in an end to the useless baton changing and musical chairs between the two major parties, the NDC and NPP who have superintended the continuous decline in economic productivity, a falling standard of education and institutionalized corruption in our beloved Ghana.

The PAG is a united alliance of Nkrumaist inspired Ghanaian progressive social justice movements within and without our borders. Should we be elected to serve our country as the governing party, we intend to put economic production in the hands of Ghanaians. We will rely on Ghanaian human capital from within and without the country and intend to tap into Pan-African goodwill from our continent and without to support our progress as a nation. We need to re-structure our internal relationships in Ghana to make the state the prime mover and guarantor for all through advancing a co-operatively-centred economy, with benefits accruing to the majority of our citizens.

It is conservatively estimated that we lose upwards of \$3bn annually, through theft and waste. We are an anti-corruption party and we intend to ensure that Ghanaians are not robbed of the products of their sweat and tears by elected officials who are either unqualified to serve in the roles they are given or care less about the ordinary man, woman and child in our nation.

We will neither shy away from state control of key sectors of our economy or from healthy private sector investment. We intend to reduce external borrowing to a minimum and retrieve lost income from corruption and mismanagement, which has become the norm. Ghana will become a winner again on its own steam. We must grow in Ghana, Process in Ghana and Manufacture for Ghana and the world market.

We will regulate, train and support environmentally sound small-scale mining, which is a \$2.5B industry.





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We will recover \$3B annually from operational waste and corruption and we will invest heavily in 0-6 early childhood education with instruction in both English and regionally relevant Ghanaian languages. We will advance public health as the philosophy of healthcare to improve health outcomes for all our citizens.

We will provide significant financial incentives to support Ghanaian professionals like teachers, doctors, nurses and public servants to serve in rural areas and improve the lives of rural citizens.

We will rapidly formalize the now informal sector of the economy with appropriate knowledge, skills and employment training along with technical support to broaden the revenue base whilst improving economic productivity. The informal sector accounts for over 90% of our economic activity. Every Ghanaian who wishes to participate in the economy will be trained to become a healthy contributor to their own success and to the success of the national economy.

We plan to set up government supported matching pension programs for those that now work in the informal sector so they can achieve financial security in their old age.

To this end, youth skills development will result from an informed integration of formal education, co-operative programs, agro-business and industry.

In order for all our industries to become significant contributors to our GDP, we will invest heavily in environmental management and sanitation, relying on active public education and the latest evidence-based methods for integrating waste management, energy production and plastic based products to support our infrastructure. We will set aggressive targets for reforestation and wildlife management. Investments in sanitation and the environment will support a comprehensive plan to bring our tourism industry to international standards and be a source of employment for many well-trained Ghanaians.

We know our education system is not competitive, now ranked 127th out of 188 countries. Our Human Development Ranking is no better, at 139th out of 188 countries. This is the true state of affairs, so we have a great deal of work to do to restore our past glory as a bastion of public education around the world. We will streamline STEM education from primary schools through tertiary education and will revamp and fund CSIR to lead and manage this initiative. We will depoliticize education and rely on professional educators and managers to shape the future of education and IT in Ghana by studying and adapting best practices from around the world. Our education and training systems must deliver graduates who are equipped to Grow in Ghana, Process in Ghana and Manufacture in Ghana.

Most importantly, we have always been a trading nation. We will insist on fair trade but we have to position our workers to be competitive so that our products are acceptable on the world stage, be they agricultural products or manufactured goods.

Most of all, we wish to restore hope in the future for Ghanaians. Hope that we can be the best at anything we set our minds to do as a people. Hope that the government cares about its citizens. Hope that democracy will mean that those offered an opportunity to serve us will be accountable to the people. Ours will be government of transparency and integrity.

The PAG continues to invite participation from all like-minded groups in this nation, serving the political re-birth of Ghana, as we prepare for our party congress in July. We stand ready to provide honest, open,





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selfless, innovative and inspiring leadership to our country. We remain cognizant of our history of over 400 years of subjugation and exploitation, in the form of slavery, colonialism and continuing neo-colonialism. Our economic and political progress must occur within a continental and Pan-African framework, within which our modern struggle was born. Indeed, the ideas of our founding president will never die. That is the meaning of Nkrumah never dies. God bless the Republic and the people of Ghana.



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