



GARID
GREATER ACCRA RESILIENT AND
INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

GARID Project to Help Curb Accra's Flooding Problems

Accra, Ghana, March 25, 2021 – The Government of Ghana has reiterated its resolve to find lasting solutions to the perennial flooding challenges in Accra through the implementation of the Greater Accra Resilient and Integrated Development (GARID) project. The 5-year World Bank-funded GARID project seeks to improve flood risk and solid waste management and improve access to basic infrastructure and services in the targeted flood prone low-income communities in the Greater Accra region.

“The Government of His Excellency Nana Akufo-Addo believes that no Ghanaian deserves to die or lose his/her properties just because God has decided to bless us with rains. Every single life matter to this government that is why we are making the right investments to find lasting solutions to sanitation and flooding challenges in Accra,” said Hon. Francis Asenso-Boakyie, the Minister of Works and Housing.

The GARID project focuses on four strategic components which are being implemented by four main ministries. The Ministry of Work and Housing (MWH) is implementing the Climate Resilient Drainage and Flood Mitigation Measures which involves deferred and routine dredging of the Odaw River, improvement of drainage system along the Odaw channel, construction of flood water retention areas and improvement of Flood Early Warning Systems.

The above interventions will be complemented by the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources (MSWR) which leads the implementation of Solid Waste Management (SWM) Capacity Improvement interventions that seeks to reduce the amount of solid waste flowing

into the primary Odaw channel. These interventions will include construction of improvement of solid waste disposal capacity in targeted low-income communities, construction of Waste Transfer Stations (WTSs) and landfill sites, capping of old dumpsites, and a major outreach programme to sensitize and improve public behavior on SWM.

The Ministry of Inner City and Zongo Development will focus on the upgrading local infrastructure (drains, access roads, alley ways, bridges, waste treatment facilities, etc.) in priority low-income communities to reduce vulnerability, strengthen climate resilience to flooding and enhance public service provision in these targeted communities while the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development will help improve metropolitan planning and coordination under the project.

The project also makes provision Contingent Emergency Response (CERC), which helps the Government of Ghana to respond to immediate and emerging risks, such as disasters, conflicts, epidemics, and economic shocks and generally, for situations requiring urgent assistance. This component was triggered with the outbreak of COVID-19 and is being implemented with the support from Ministry of Health.

The Minister for Works and Housing, Hon. Francis Asenso-Boakye, underscored the importance of the interventions being implemented by the GARID project. As he put it, “I am very certain that the holistic approach being adopted by the GARID project in tackling the twin challenges of flooding and solid waste management will help improve sanitation and flooding situations in Accra. I, therefore, appeal to all stakeholders to support the project to succeed.”

When completed, the GARID project will help improve flood risk and solid waste management in the Greater Accra Region, particularly, along the Odaw River Basin, improve access to basic infrastructure and services in the targeted communities and foster adaptation of the flood management infrastructure to climate change in the region.

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