

BENEFITS AND COSTS OF FUTURE INTERVENTIONS

IMPLEMENTING THE BEST SOLUTIONS FIRST

Ghana has taken great strides in the first two decades of this century, halving extreme poverty, reducing the numbers suffering from extreme hunger and HIV, and achieving universal primary education. Now that Ghana is officially a middle-income country, different choices are appearing on the horizon.

“THIS PROJECT COULD YIELD BENEFITS WORTH MORE THAN 10 BILLION CEDI EVERY YEAR FOR GHANA”

The new Ghanaian government’s transformative agenda to build a ‘Ghana Beyond Aid’ is bold and ambitious, but which programs should the government prioritize in education, health care, industrialization, agriculture and trade? How can we use lessons from research and international best practices to make Ghana’s economy more prosperous and competitive? Like all countries, the scope of problems in Ghana far exceed the resources available to address them. As such, this requires hard choices about where to invest first.

HOW TO DO MORE GOOD FOR EVERY CEDI

The aim of *Ghana Priorities* is to provide the government and the international donor community with a systematic process to help **prioritize the most effective policy solutions and help Ghana achieve more with every cedi**, using academic research, stakeholder engagement and a targeted outreach strategy to determine the best investments.

OVERVIEW

Where should investments in Ghana be directed to get the most benefit for every cedi spent?

We will engage with the government, donors, think tanks, NGOs, academia and civil society to identify the most urgent issues and establish 500-1,000 of the most promising solutions across many different policy areas, likely including topics from education, health, governance, water, sanitation, environment, energy and infrastructure.

Representatives from across Ghana will help pick the 50-60 most important solutions to be analyzed. We will then work with the best economists from Ghana, the region, and around the world to evaluate these solutions and provide evidence-based cost-benefit analyses.

The project will then bring together the best local, regional and international academic research, employing cost-benefit analysis together with sector expert input, broad stakeholder engagement, and extensive policy outreach to evaluate and prioritize these top solutions. The result will be a list that shows how much good each of 50-60 top policies would do for Ghana.

Public expenditure for 2017 was projected at more than 54 billion cedi. Research indicates that just a 1% shift of government spending towards high benefit-to-cost policies, such as those that would be identified by this project, could yield more than 10 billion cedi worth of additional benefits for Ghana every year.

