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### ABOUT US

GHASKA, an acronym for Ghanaian Students in Korea and Associates, serves as the umbrella organization uniting Ghanaian students and academics in the Republic of Korea. We are an active member of the Global Union of Ghanaian Scholars (GUGS), a testament to our commitment to global collaboration.

Our journey commenced in 2015 when a group of visionary Ghanaian students recognized the importance of rallying their compatriots to collectively pursue common agendas aimed at self-development and nation-building. GHASKA operates as a non-political, non-religious, and socio-cultural entity, dedicated to enhancing the academic, social, and overall well-being of our members. Our efforts are greatly bolstered by the support of the Ghana Embassy in Korea, our esteemed alumni, and valued partners.

We are dedicated to offering a robust platform for intellectual discussions centered on crucial matters of national significance. Our aim is to facilitate meaningful exchanges and networking opportunities that foster capacity building and contribute to the advancement of our nation.

We strive to lead the way in championing unity and a strong sense of belonging among our members. We promote networking and advocacy as essential tools for driving national development.

### NATIONAL EXECUTIVES



**Richard Kabutey** *President* 





**Divine Kporxah** Vice President

Gerogina Okailey Dadzie General Secretary



Mark Nyarkoh Organizing Secretary



Ammishadai Asafo-Adjei Treasurer

## **REGIONAL EXECUTIVES**



Antoinette Opoku Seoul Region



Joseph Kojo Baidoo Suwon Region



Selorm Kwaku Anka Daejeon Region



Godwin Dodovi Daegu Region



Azati Daniel Kofi Busan Region

### WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ladies and gentlemen,

We welcome you to GHASKA's Annual General Meeting, a momentous occasion that underscores your commitment to our collective goals.

This AGM isn't a routine gathering; it's a vital opportunity for us to assess our achievements, identify

areas for growth, and plot our future course. GHASKA has evolved into a supportive family over the years, fostering friendships, sharing ideas, and collectively advancing common causes.

Today, I encourage active participation, fresh perspectives, and a commitment to shaping our future. We thank our members, the GHASKA Executives, the Ghana Embassy in Korea, Alumni, and partners for their unwavering support.

Let's make this AGM a catalyst for even greater achievements together.



**Richard Kabutey** GHASKA President-2022-2023

### GHASKA END OF YEAR PARTY

The GHASKA End of Year Party has not only become a cherished tradition but also a pivotal milestone in our organizational calendar. It serves as a moment of unity, reflection, celebration, and the opportunity to unwind after a year of dedicated academic endeavors.

The event took place on December 19, 2022, in the vibrant city of Seoul. With approximately 65 attendees hailing from all five regions of GHASKA, it marked the inaugural offline program for the 2022/2023 Administrative year.

Amidst delightful bites and spirited dances, our members enthusiastically participated in entertaining games and amicable competitions, demonstrating both their teamwork and indomitable spirit.

The occasion was graced by the presence of esteemed dignitaries, including the Deputy Ambassador, H.E. Doris Brese, lending an air of prestige and elegance to the festivities.



GHASK End of Year Party

## 1<sup>st</sup> GHASKA IMMIGRATION DAY

On Saturday, January 28, 2023, an enlightening symposium known as "Immigration Day" unfolded at the KDI School of Public Policy and Management. This event played a pivotal role in the GHASKA action plan for the year, running from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm.

The core aim of this symposium was to educate Ghanaian students pursuing their studies in Korea about the latest developments in immigration policies. Furthermore, an engaging session titled "Bonding with Koreans Both in School and at Work" provided invaluable insights into the day-to-day life in Korea. These informative discussions were skillfully led by the dynamic duo of Ms. Bia Lee and Mr. Samuel Okyere.

In addition to our distinguished presenters, the event boasted the presence of esteemed guests, including Her Excellency Mrs. Charis Obetsebi-Lamptey Zwennes, Ms. Rita Kissi, Mr. Young-Jo Choi, and Ms. Vickjune Excel Wutah. Their contributions, both through their participation and valuable suggestions, enriched the symposium's content.

The symposium drew an impressive turnout, with attendees joining in both online and in person to partake in this enriching experience.



GHASKA Immigration Day

### ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INTERNSHIP

To empower student attendees with practical knowledge and skill sets crucial for success in entrepreneurship and internship opportunities, thereby nurturing their personal and professional development and equipping them to make well-informed decisions about their career paths.

On Saturday, March 25, 2023, GHASKA, hosted a transformative event: the "Entrepreneurship and Internship Seminar." This dynamic gathering brought together 90 participants, seamlessly bridging the physical and virtual realms through an engaging Zoom presence. Held at the esteemed Ajou University, the seminar commenced at 11:00 a.m. The symposium commenced with a heartfelt opening prayer, eloquently led by Sylvester Dadzie, and a brief welcome remarks by Richard Kabutey, the President of GHASKA. An address on behalf of Her Excellency Mrs. Charis Obetsebi-Lamptey Zwennes, the Ambassador was delivered by Ms. Rita Kissi, head of chancer. The address highlighted the significance of the event and the need for students to utilize such opportunities.

The first session of the seminar featured Mr. Nihat Khalizade, the director of the Gangnam Global Village Center, who adeptly provided a comprehensive overview of various visa categories, startup prospects, and the nuances of working in Korea. Mr. Khalizade also illuminated the roles and programs of the Gangnam Global Village Center, thereby equipping attendees with invaluable insights.

The second session, was facilitated by Victoria and Freya who were staffs of the Overseas Internship Exchange Center. This session introduced attendees to the American internship experience, covering applicant prerequisites, the intricacies of the J1 visa application process, and the process of application and hiring procedures for internships in the US.

The program saw an impressive turnout, with more than 30 other foreign nationals in attendance, adding a diverse and global perspective to the discussions.



Entrepreneurship and Internship Seminar

## VALUES AND LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

Every culture embraces distinct moral value systems, serving as the guiding principles for the behavior of its members. Upon reflection on the past moral values of Ghanaian societies, it becomes evident that there exists a moral deficit. This realization prompts us to ponder some critical questions: What lies ahead for Ghanaian societies in light of the prevailing moral decay? How can we reclaim our moral integrity in the face of these challenges? These questions and more compelled the current GHASKA Executives to organize a Values and Leadership program, an endeavor aimed at reconnecting with our cherished values and raising transformational leaders who would be instrumental in bringing about the much-needed change in the country.

The program, titled "Building the Nation through Values," was conducted via Zoom on Saturday, April 29, 2023, at 7:30 KST (10:30 am GMT). The distinguished Guest Speaker for the event was Mr. James Ebo White, renowned as Uncle Ebo White, an accomplished playwright, author, and motivational speaker with a significant presence in Ghana's radio and television landscape. He also serves as the CEO of Roverman Productions.

The program unfolded as scheduled, commencing at 7:30 pm, with a heartfelt opening prayer led by Ms. Kekeli Amegayie, a student of Seoul National University. Mr. Richard Kabutey, GHASKA's President, and Divine Kporxah, the Vice President, adeptly moderated the event, ensuring its smooth progression. The program had 72 attendees, including students, alumni, invited guests, and GHASKA patrons.

In the absence of the Ghana Ambassador to Korea, Ms. Rita Kissi, the Head of Chancery at the Ghana Embassy in Korea, delivered a gracious speech expressing her appreciation to the GHASKA Executives for their outstanding program. She urged all participants to actively engage and embrace the values crucial for nation-building.

During his presentation, the Guest Speaker, Mr. James Ebo White, outlined eight reasons contributing to the prevalence of corruption and immoral values in our society. He emphasized:

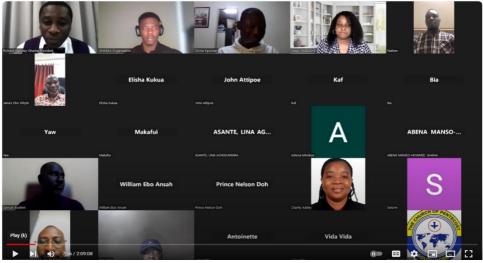
- 1. Celebration of wealth without scrutiny
- 2. The creation of a system that devalues those without financial resources
- 3. Protection of wrongdoers in Ghana
- 4. Excessive deference to foreigners within Ghana

- 5. Loss of hope in Ghana's potential for transformation
- 6. The hollowness of religion in Ghana
- 7. Failure to modernize our culture into the 21st century
- 8. Excessive rhetoric without corresponding actions.

To chart a path forward for Ghana, Mr. White proposed four key points:

- 1. Belief in Ghana's capacity for change
- 2. Recognition that Ghana's transformation depends on individuals acting as the critical mass
- 3. A call to embody the difference we wish to see
- 4. A shift away from excessive reliance on politicians for Ghana's change.

Following Mr. White's compelling presentation, attendees engaged in valuable discussions, shared remarks, and posed thoughtful questions. The Guest Speaker commended the synergy between the student body and alumni, expressing his desire to become an Associate Member of GHASKA and offering his expertise for potential future events.



Values and Leadership Seminar – Zoom Meeting

## **RESEARCH CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP-2023**

GHASKA, with a commitment to enhancing the research capabilities of its students, organized a dynamic "Research Capacity Building Workshop" led by Mr. Ezekiel Edward Netty-Oppong. A PhD candidate in Biomedical Engineering, Yonsei University. The workshop aimed to equip students with the latest applications and programs designed to streamline and accelerate the research process.

The online workshop took place on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023, ensuring accessibility for GHASKA members. The workshop delved into a diverse range of applications and tools, each tailored to empower students in their research endeavors. These applications included:

### 1.Canva

(<u>https://www.canva.com/design/DAFkG0olaFY/T56y6hCd4FlyZWpSIRP43Q/edit</u>): A versatile design tool to create visually appealing research materials.

2. BioRender (<u>https://www.biorender.com/</u>): A platform for creating high-quality scientific illustrations and graphics.

3. Phrasebank Research (<u>https://phrasebankresearch.net/</u>): An invaluable resource for expressing ideas effectively and connecting passages in research writing.

4. Sci-Hub (<u>https://sci-hub.se/</u>): A resourceful platform for accessing research papers and scholarly articles.

5.Scholarcy Article Summarizer (<u>https://article-</u> <u>summarizer.scholarcy.com/summarizer</u>): A tool for summarizing lengthy research papers and articles.

6. ChatPDF (<u>https://www.chatpdf.com/</u>): An application for efficient PDF editing and collaboration.

7. Paper Digest (<u>https://www.paper-digest.com/</u>): A platform for staying updated with the latest research papers in various fields.

8. Connected Papers (<u>https://www.connectedpapers.com/</u>): A visual tool for exploring research papers and their connections.

9. Writefull (<u>https://my.writefull.com/account</u>): A writing assistance tool that provides feedback and suggestions for research writing.

10. Notion (<u>https://www.notion.so/product/projects</u>): A versatile workspace for organizing research projects and collaborative work.

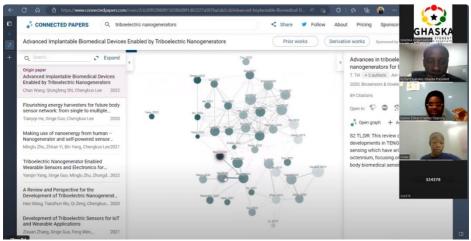
11. EndNote (<u>https://getintopc.com/softwares/utilities/endnote-2023-free-download/</u>): A reference management software to streamline citation and bibliography management.

Mr. Ezekiel Edward Netty-Oppong provided comprehensive guidance on each of these applications, demonstrating their features and functionalities. Participants gained practical insights into how these tools could significantly enhance their research processes, making them more efficient and productive.

The workshop featured an interactive session where attendees had the opportunity to ask questions, seek clarification, and engage in discussions. This allowed for a deeper understanding of the applications and their real-world applications in research.

As the workshop came to a close, participants expressed their appreciation for the valuable insights and tools presented. They left with newfound knowledge and a sense of empowerment to advance their research endeavors.

The "Research Capacity Building Workshop 2023" served as a testament to GHASKA's dedication to equipping its students with the latest resources and skills to excel in their academic pursuits. The applications and programs introduced during the workshop will undoubtedly play a pivotal role in enhancing the research capabilities of GHASKA members and contribute to their academic success.



Research Capacity Building Worskshop – Zoom Meeting

## GHASKA SPORTS FESTIVAL-2023

The primary objective of GHASKA Sports Festival (GSF) 2023 was to foster unity, sportsmanship, and camaraderie among Ghanaian Students in Korea and their associates, while also creating an enjoyable atmosphere for friends, sponsors, and foreign nationals to participate in sporting activities.

The Sports Festival, held on Saturday, June 24, 2023, at the Hanbat National University will go down in history as one of GHASKA's most successful events. Notably, the President of Hanbat University, the Ambassador of Ghana to Korea, and several other dignitaries graced the occasion, making it even more special.

The GSF 2023 was an unparalleled success, setting new attendance records with over 150 participants, including foreign nationals. The event united people from diverse backgrounds, forging strong bonds and celebrating the spirit of sportsmanship.

The sports festival was a symbol of unity, bringing together Ghanaian students, associates, sponsors, patrons, friends, and even foreign nationals. It created an environment of joy and friendship that truly embodied GHASKA's spirit.

The day was filled with thrilling sports competitions, jubilant celebrations, and heartwarming interactions. Athletes displayed exceptional sportsmanship, and the enthusiastic cheers from supporters echoed throughout the event.

The success of GSF 2023 was made possible by the generous support of our sponsors. All Nations Church (ANC) contributed items for awards, while the Daejeon International Center (DIC) and Hanbat National University's International Office also provided valuable support.

The organizing committee deserves special recognition for their outstanding efforts. Their meticulous planning and dedicated work were instrumental in making GSF 2023 a resounding success.

GSF 2023 leaves behind a legacy of unity and sportsmanship, reaffirming GHASKA's commitment to bringing people together through sports.



GHASKA Sports Festival 2023

## **GHASKA INNOVATIVE CONFERENCE-2023**

GHASKA Innovative Conference (GIC) has become a significant annual event on GHASKAs calendars since its inception in 2017. This year, the 6th edition of the GIC, held on August 19th at Sungkyungkwan University in Seoul, marked a momentous transition from an exclusively online model, necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic, to a dynamic hybrid format. The conference's theme, "Transforming Ghana through Research," convened participants from diverse academic disciplines and backgrounds, fostering the exchange of ideas, insights, and innovations. This report presents a comprehensive overview of the conference, spotlighting its resounding success and valuable lessons gleaned.

The 6th GIC aimed to provide a platform for Ghanaian scholars to explore solutions to the country's developmental challenges through research. What set this year apart was the incorporation of a global perspective. Attendees had the unique opportunity to learn from fellow African countries addressing similar issues within their borders. This global taste of knowledge exchange added significant value to the conference.

The hybrid model of the conference allowed for both physical and virtual participation. Approximately 100 attendees were present at the venue, while 20 participants joined remotely. A significant portion of participants hailed from universities or educational institutions, with Sungkyungkwan University and the KDI School being prominent contributors.

The conference featured a diverse range of research topics and special guest sessions, providing a dynamic and engaging experience for attendees. Keynote speeches, panel discussions, and a brainstorming segment addressed critical issues facing Ghana. Attendees actively participated, and parallel sessions allowed them to choose presentations aligned with their interests.

The 6th GHASKA Innovative Conference was a resounding success, symbolizing the resilience and adaptability of the Ghanaian student and scholar community in South Korea. Despite challenges, the conference effectively catered to a diverse audience through its hybrid model, fostering knowledge exchange and collaboration. Informal feedback indicated that the conference was well received, and lessons learned will inform future improvements.

Gratitude is extended to sponsors, presenters, committee members, attendees, and supporters who contributed to the event's success. Special thanks to Sungkyungkwan University Graduate School of Governance and GMPA for their invaluable support.



GHASKA Innovative Conference (GIC) 2023

### WELFARE

#### MR. EMMANUEL ARMAH (LATE)

In a heartwarming display of compassion and solidarity, Mr. Emmanuel Armah (late), a Ghanaian citizen who was facing a critical health crisis, received invaluable support from GHASKA members amounting to the tune of \$830,000. Other Ghanaians, business men and churches in Korea were also contacted by the Ghana Embassy to support our own brother. This act of kindness demonstrates the strong sense of community within the Ghanaian diaspora in Korea.

The financial aid played a pivotal role in alleviating the considerable burden that Mr. Armah and his family were grappling with during his illness. And it underscored the importance of collective support and unity within the Ghanaian community in Korea. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all those who generously contributed, whether in kind or cash, to this noble cause. May the Almighty bless you for your kindness and compassion during this difficult time

#### MR. ABDUL RAZAK

On December 30th, 2022, a devastating fire tore through the home of Mr. Abdul-Razak, a member of GHASKA, in Ansan. This tragic event not only destroyed all of his possessions but also left him with severe burns on his body. With virtually everything lost, he had no choice but to stay in a hotel for several weeks.

Upon hearing about this unfortunate incident, GHASKA members were contacted for assistance. Members supported with #1,105,500. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all those who generously contributed, whether in kind or cash, to this noble cause. May the Almighty bless you for your kindness and compassion during this difficult time.

### REGIONAL AKWAABA DAY DAEJEON REGION

The Regional Akwaaba Day was an initiative established by Ghaska to officially welcome new Ghanaian students arriving in South Korea and joining the association. The primary objective of this event was to provide orientation to new members about the association itself and the overall living and studying conditions in South Korea. Additionally, it aimed to offer assistance to these new members in any way possible. On the 13th of May 2023, the Daejeon region successfully organized its inaugural Akwaaba Day for new Ghaska members at the KDI School of Public Policy in Sejong City.

The event featured a well-organized soiree, led by the president of Ghaska and the team leader of the Seongnam Foreign Residents Welfare Support Center. The event saw participation from the Daejeon regional representative, existing members of Ghaska, as well as associates of the organization. A delightful lunch was arranged, featuring an array of delectable continental dishes representing the diverse culinary backgrounds of the attendees, including Ghanaian, Korean, and Sri Lankan cuisine. The culinary mastermind behind this feast was Ms. Bia Lee, the team leader of the Seongnam Foreign Residents Welfare Support Center, who received assistance from the Ghaska president and several associates. This communal dining experience provided an excellent opportunity for members and associates to sit, eat, and engage in lively conversations.

The new members hailing from Daejeon and Sejong received an insightful orientation session about Ghaska and life as a Ghanaian student in Korea. The Ghaska President, the Daejeon Ghaska representative, and the team leader of the Seongnam Foreign Residents Welfare Support Center all shared valuable insights and knowledge with the newcomers. This informative session ensured that the new members were well-prepared for their academic journey in South Korea.

The Daejeon Regional Akwaaba Day was an undeniable success. It facilitated the seamless integration of new members into Ghaska and provided them with essential information about living and studying in Korea. The event demonstrated Ghaska's commitment to creating awareness and increasing the number of Ghanaian students within the association while also offering necessary assistance where needed. Ghaska intends to continue organizing such events in the future, furthering its mission to support Ghanaian students in South Korea and fostering a strong sense of community among its members.





Regional Akwaaba Day - Daejeon

### **REGIONAL AKWAABA DAY**

#### **SEOUL REGION**

The Seoul Regional Akwaaba event was organized to welcome Ghanaian students and newcomers to South Korea. It took place on Saturday, 27th May 2023, at the W-Monkey Bowling Center in Dongdaemun, Seoul.

The gathering included a total of nine participants, comprising two new students and five GHASKA members. Additionally, two individuals from different countries, currently studying in Seoul, attended the event.

The meeting featured various activities, including bowling, to encourage social interaction among the attendees. New members were introduced and warmly welcomed into the Ghanaian community in Seoul. GHASKA members discussed their roles, responsibilities, and the benefits of membership.

A presentation on Korean culture, customs, and lifestyle was provided to help newcomers adapt to their new environment. Attendees were informed about upcoming GHASKA activities, such as the GHASKA Innovative Conference (GIS), GHASKA Sports Festival, and the Fireside Chat Forum, all aimed at promoting participation and cultural exchange.

An open discussion allowed attendees to share their thoughts, ask questions, and address concerns related to GHASKA. A question and answer session provided an opportunity for attendees to seek clarification on various topics.

The meeting concluded with a closing prayer, and attendees expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to connect and engage. In summary, the Seoul Regional Akwaaba successfully welcomed Ghanaian students and newcomers, providing a platform for integration and camaraderie within the GHASKA community.





Regional Akwaaba Day - Seoul

### **VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITIES**

#### DAEJEON TOGETHER DAY FESTIVAL

The Daejeon Together Day Festival was organized to commemorate World Together Day, celebrated annually in May. The primary objective of this festival was to foster cultural exchange and understanding between the citizens of Daejeon and foreign residents, promoting the sharing of cultures. The event encouraged voluntary participation from both Daejeon citizens and foreigners.

On Saturday, the 20th of May 2023, the Daejeon Public Agency for Social Service, under the supervision of the Daejeon Support Center for Foreign Residents, extended invitations to representatives of various nationalities to partake in this program. GHASKA had the distinct honor of representing Ghana at this event, which was held at Seodaejeon Park in Daejeon Metropolitan City, running from 11 am to 4 pm.

GHASKA team showcased a variety of artifacts from Ghana, including traditional games such as Oware, Ludu, and Achi, all of which were enthusiastically received and appreciated by visitors to the Ghanaian booth.

The booth also featured items such as kente cloths, miniature xylophones, beaded necklaces, and male and female cutouts adorned in kente cloth and traditional ornaments for photography. The rich history and culture of Ghana were narrated to guests who visited the booth, and stickers were distributed to individuals who completed various tasks assigned by the Ghanaian representatives as part of the socialization and engagement efforts.

The program concluded at 4:00 pm. The personnel from the Daejeon Support Center for Foreign Residents personally expressed their gratitude to the GHASKA representatives for their active participation in the event and hoped for future collaborations between the two organizations.



Daejeon Together Day Festival

### **VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITIES**

#### **KKOTDONGNAE VOLUNTARY PROGRAM**

Kkotdongnae is a prominent Catholic community associated with the Kkottongnae Brothers and Sisters of Jesus, a religious order founded by Father John Oh Woong-jin. The community is renowned for its charitable and social welfare initiatives, including the operation of orphanages, homes for the elderly, rehabilitation centers, and shelters for the homeless.

This year, a group of GHASKA members from Seoul participated in the program. The group consisted of five (5) students and two (2) representatives from the Ghanaian Embassy, who were invited to join the program through the Ghana Embassy's collaboration with Kkotdongnae. The event took place at the Kkotdongnae premises.

The core activities involved providing meals to elderly individuals who were identified as less privileged and vulnerable members of society. GHASKA actively participated in serving meals, ensuring that everyone received proper nourishment.

In addition to providing meals, GHASKA assisted the elderly in wearing protective clothing, prioritizing their comfort and well-being.

An appreciation letter was presented to the Head of Mission, recognizing a generous donation of winter clothing made to the GHASKA community during the 2022 End of Year Party. This gesture was acknowledged and celebrated as a valuable contribution to the community.

The Kkotdongnae voluntary program, held on Saturday, 20th May 2023, at the Kkotdongnae premises, was a resounding success. Volunteers, including GHASKA members, actively engaged in activities aimed at assisting the less privileged and vulnerable elderly population. The charitable initiatives undertaken by the Kkotdongnae community, under the leadership of Father John Oh Woong-jin, left a positive impact on the lives of those in need. The event served as a testament to the community's commitment to social welfare and its dedication to making a meaningful difference in society.



Kkotdongnae Voluntary Program

## **VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITIES**

### WORLD CULTURAL DAY

GHASKA also volunteered at the Seongnam Migrant Community Service Center during the World Cultural Day event held on 21st May 2022. GHASKA joined participants from other countries and participated to showcase the rich culture that we have as a people.

The event was engaging and colorful, aiming to showcase the various services offered by the Seongnam Migrant Community Service Center, including Korean Language Education Services, Emergency Assistance for Foreign Residents, Medical and Health Assistance for Foreigners, Assistance to the Foreign Welfare Center, and Interpretation Support Service.





World Cultural Day

## **OFFICIAL VISITS**

During the 2022/2023 administration year, we had the privilege of engaging with the following statesmen of Ghana.

### His Excellency John Dramani Mahama, former President of Ghana.

GHASKA had the distinct honor of having a luncheon roundtable discussion with H.E. John Dramani Mahama, the Former President of Ghana, during his visit to Korea to participate in the Korea Africa Summit. The luncheon was arranged by the Korean African Foundation at the Four Seasons Hotel, Seoul, on Saturday, May 27th, 2023, to facilitate a meaningful exchange between H.E. Mahama and the Ghanaian students residing in Korea.

The round table discussion provided an invaluable opportunity for the Ghanaian Students to engage in a candid and interactive dialogue with H.E. John Mahama. Several topics of importance and relevance were discussed during this session, including:

Africa-Korea Relations: H.E. Mahama highlighted the significance of fostering stronger diplomatic and economic ties between African nations, including Ghana, and South Korea. He commended the efforts of the Korean government in strengthening partnerships with African countries.

Education and Skill Development: The Former President emphasized the importance of education and skill development in driving sustainable development in Ghana. He encouraged Ghanaian students in Korea to pursue excellence in their respective fields and consider contributing their expertise to the development of Ghana.

Youth Empowerment: H.E. Mahama discussed the role of youth in shaping the future of Ghana. He emphasized the need for youth empowerment programs and initiatives to harness the potential of the young generation.



Official Visit – Former President H.E. John Dramani Mahama

### Hon. Ken Ofori-Atta, Minister for Finance and Economic Planning of Ghana

On May 29<sup>th</sup> 2023 GHASKA had the privilege to engage Hon. Minister of Finance Kenneth Nana Yaw Ofori-Atta in a special meeting at Fairmont Ambassador, Seoul. The Hon. Minister was in Korea for some government businesses and the Ghana Embassy in Korea facilitated the meeting between the student body and the Hon. Minister of Finance.

In attendance was the Hon. Kenneth Nana Yaw Ofori-Atta, Hon. Minister for Finance; Ms. Eva Esselba Mends, Chief Director, MofeP-Ghana; Mr. Lewis Amoah, Director EFID, MofeP; and GHASKA representatives. The round table discussions touched on the following;

- 1. Brain Drain in Ghana and retaining skilled professionals.
- 2. Request for duty-free imports like some other African countries.
- 3. Plans for nuclear electricity generation in response to power outages.
- 4. Capitalizing on Korean government's support for Ghana.
- 5. Ensuring timely completion of government projects.
- 6. Promoting healthy competition among local governments.
- 7. Advice for students in the diaspora contributing to nation-building.

The Hon. Minister of Finance stressed self-reliance and contribution to nation-building. He encouraged networking and wise financial choices upon returning to Ghana. The meeting highlighted the importance of education in nation-building and staying informed about emerging issues in one's field.

Overall, the meeting facilitated productive discussions on various topics and encouraged Ghanaian students in Korea to actively contribute to their country's progress.



Official Visit - Hon. Ken Ofori-Atta

### PROJECTS

#### **GHASKA WEBSITE**

In response to the increasing need for GHASKA to establish a professional online presence that effectively communicates our identity to external entities, including corporate bodies and local government institutions, our journey has been one of determination and resilience.

Initially, the development of our website encountered challenges due to the lackluster performance of the professional contracted by the previous administration. Recognizing the critical importance of a strong online presence for GHASKA, the 2022/2023 Administration undertook a comprehensive search within our GHASKA database. This search aimed to identify members with expertise in web development who were willing to offer their services pro bono.

Our efforts led us to assemble a dedicated five-member GHASKA IT Committee, entrusted with the task of revitalizing our online presence. As a result of their tireless work, we are proud to announce a professional GHASKA website. This website features up-to-date and relevant information while also incorporating embedded social media feeds from Instagram and YouTube to expand GHASKA's social media reach.

While there are a few finishing touches to be done on the website, we are genuinely pleased with the progress made thus far. We invite you to explore and confirm the milestone by visiting www.ghaska.org. Your continued support and engagement are vital as we forge ahead in strengthening GHASKA's online presence and overall impact. Together, we are building a brighter future for our organization.

We encourage upcoming executives to collaborate closely with the GHASKA IT Committee to find cutting-edge and contemporary ways to improve GHASKA's online presence in a world where an online identity may significantly increase an organization's reach.



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Regional Info	
Member Registration	
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Partners	

WELCOME

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#### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### UPCOMING EVENTS



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GALLERY



#### **GHASKA MEMBERSHIP MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

To ensure that our member database remains up-to-date and robust, the GHASKA IT Committee has been diligently working on the creation of the GHASKA Membership Management System (GMMS). This cutting-edge system has been meticulously designed with the goal of not only enhancing accountability, coordination, and transparency but also of simplifying the workload for our dedicated executives.

We are eagerly looking forward to the imminent launch of the GMMS, which represents a substantial leap forward for GHASKA. This innovative solution is poised to revolutionize the way we manage our membership information and operations, ultimately paving the way for a more efficient and effective GHASKA.

### SINCHON WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL

GHASKA was invited to participate in the 1st 2023 Sinchon World Youth Festival (SWYFT) from September 15-17, 2023, hosted by the Seodaemun-gu Office. This festival serves as a platform for international students to both operate booths and showcase their performances. Its primary objective was to allow participants to represent their home countries while immersing themselves in Korea's vibrant culture. By facilitating cultural exchange and fostering mutual understanding among young people from diverse backgrounds.

During this event, GHASKA actively participated in various activities, including the Parade of Nations, a thrilling Cooking Contest, and the operation of an engaging booth. Notably, GHASKA's booth was a collaborative effort with the Ghana Embassy in Korea.

We are pleased to report that our involvement in the festival was met with resounding success and appreciation. The organizers and the Mayor of Seodaemun District extended their commendations to GHASKA for our enthusiastic and meaningful contributions to the event. Our participation not only enriched the festival but also strengthened the bonds of friendship and cultural exchange between Ghana and Korea.



Sinchon World Youth Festival

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

During our tenure in office we were committed to providing up-to-date information on job openings to our members and the broader community. We understood the importance of empowering individuals with opportunities here in Korea

Through our dedicated efforts, we ensured that our members had access to real-time job listings, job fairs, and career development resources. By doing so, we aimed to bridge the gap between job seekers and potential employers, facilitating meaningful employment opportunities for our community members.

Our dedication to offering current and relevant job information underscored our commitment to the well-being and professional development of our members.

## GHASKA ALUMNI GROUP

GHASKA ALUMNI GROUP was established through a collaborative effort between our Administration and the previous Administration, The group since its inception now boasts of 31 members. Rooted in the mission of fostering networking and the exchange of opportunities among former students, we hope that the group would evolve into a thriving community. Its activities will encompass networking events, career development workshops, and fruitful collaborations between Korea and Ghana. We encoungrage past GHASKA Members to join this new wave.

## APPRECIATION TO COMMITTES

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

In order to tap into the rich experience of past GHASKA executives, our Administration we constituted an advisory committee on the 19th November 2022. The members were Richard Adu Poku, Richard Nti, Derrick Allan Taylor, Dela Quarme Gbadago (PhD), Elikplim Afelete, Derrick Adams, Nadia Esi Berchtenbreiter. The Advisory Committee played a pivotal role in providing valuable insights and unwavering support throughout our administration. The committee offered guidance and counsel that significantly influenced our decision-making processes. Their collective wisdom and deep understanding of our organization's mission and goals helped us navigate challenges and made informed decisions. We commend the Advisory Committee for their dedication.

### **IT COMMITTEE**

Pursuant to article 8 and 10 of the constitution our administration constituted the IT Committee on 24th December 2022. The members were Annor Peter (Chairman/Developer), Teye Ebenezer Boahene (Secretary/Developer), Gilbert Owusu Gamfi Amono (Social Media/Editaor), Gerald Selasie (Designer) and Segbey Isaac(Web analytics).

The IT Committee played a pivotal role in advancing our organization's technological capabilities and digital presence. Comprising tech-savvy individuals with a passion for innovation, this committee brought fresh ideas and expertise to the table, enabling us to harness the power of technology for our mission.

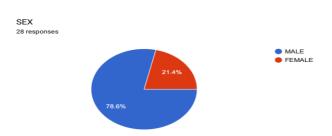
Throughout our administration, the IT Committee diligently worked on various projects, including the development of our website. Their efforts not only improved our online presence but also streamlined our operations, enhancing accountability, coordination, and transparency.

We commend the IT Committee for their dedication and tireless efforts in ensuring that our organization remained at the forefront of technological advancements. Their contributions have been instrumental in modernizing our operations and ensuring our continued relevance in an increasingly digital world.

### GHASKA MEMBERSHIP DATABASE

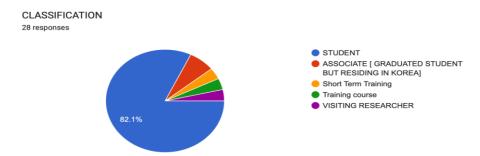
Members added to the GHASKA Databse during the 2022/23 administration = 28 (8.4% Increase)

### 1. Gender



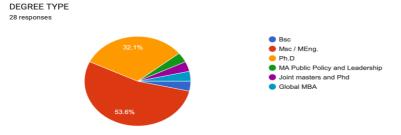
### 2. Classification

Students = 23; Associate{ graduates residing in Korea) = 2; Short-Term training = 1 Trianing Course = 1 and Visiting Researchers = 1

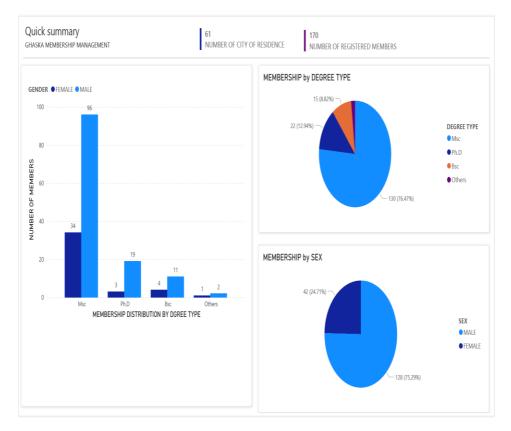


### 3. Degree Type

Bsc = 1, Msc/MEng = 15 Ph.D = 9, MA Public Policy and Leadership = 1 Joint masters and Phd = 1 and Global MBA = 1



### Actual Database Membership



### **APPRECIATION**

We want to thank everyone who supported us and believed in us in this journey. GHASKA is here because of you. May the Almighty God bless you all!

### APPENDIX

#### To GHSKA members

I would like to sincerely express my heartfelt appreciation for your outstanding participation and unwavering effort during today's KKOTDONGNAE voluntary program.

First and foremost, I am immensely impressed by your commitment to making a positive impact within their community as representatives of Ghanaian culture.

Furthermore, I want to personally extend my gratitude about working with GHASKA. Your enthusiasm, positive attitude, and willingness to go above and beyond have truly left an indelible mark on this event.

Looking ahead, I hope that we can support to incorporate a traditional Ghanaian performance into their program for next year, as it would be a unique and enriching showcase for attendees who have not experienced foreign cultures.

Once again, thank you for your remarkable contributions.

Best regards

Esi Han/ Coordinator



### APPENDIX



### PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

During our tenure in office, we were fortunate to receive invaluable support from a dedicated group of partners and sponsors who shared our vision and mission. Their unwavering commitment and generous contributions were instrumental in the success of our administration. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the following partners and sponsors for their crucial support:



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA SEOUL-SOUTH KOREA





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IKE SHORING

