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CDD-Ghana Monthly Newsletter

1 message

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CDD-Ghana Monthly May Edition

*... promoting democracy, good governance and inclusive development in
Ghana & Africa*

CDD-Ghana Joins Global Dialogue on Cost of Politics Held in Nairobi



The Director of Policy Engagement and Partnerships at the Center, Dr. Kojo Asante, participated in a global workshop on the “Cost of Politics” held in Nairobi from May 5–7, 2026. The workshop, organised by Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) with support from the European Union under the Women and Youth in Democratic Engagement (WYDE) program, brought together researchers and governance experts from

across the globe to examine how money shapes political participation and democratic processes.

As part of the discussions, Dr. Asante led a session on “A Roadmap for Reform?”, where he shared reflections on ongoing efforts and policy approaches aimed at addressing the growing cost of politics and its implications for democratic participation. The workshop also focused on building a global network of researchers and practitioners to deepen understanding of the drivers and effects of political spending, while exploring collaborative approaches for future research and reform initiatives.

Institutional Visit Deepens Collaboration Between CDD-Ghana and BudgIT Foundation

On Thursday, May 21, CDD-Ghana’s Social Accountability Team hosted representatives of the BudgIT Foundation for an institutional visit aimed at strengthening collaboration between the two organisations.

Discussions focused on opportunities to deepen cooperation on accountability, citizen engagement, and advocacy initiatives, while reaffirming the value that collaboration between the two organisations brings to the broader civil society ecosystem.

The meeting also explored ways to build on ongoing social accountability efforts and identify new areas of partnership in Ghana and across Africa. Both organisations expressed their commitment to sustaining collaboration in support of transparent, accountable, and responsive governance.

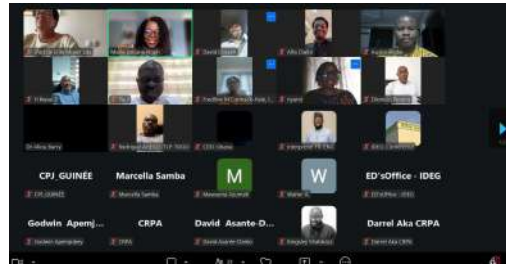


WADEMOS Convenes First Network Meeting of 2026

The WADEMOS Network held its maiden network members’ meeting for 2026. The virtual event, which took place on Monday, May 4, provided an opportunity for the Network to take stock of

developments in the sub-region, discuss the next phase of project implementation, and determine its priorities for the remainder of the year.

It was a fruitful meeting where members reaffirmed their commitment to collaborate in advancing the cause of democracy.



As part of its upcoming activities, the Network, in collaboration with the National Democratic Institute (NDI), will host the Next Gen in Reform Symposium in Nigeria. The event will bring together young civic actors, democracy advocates, and emerging leaders from across West Africa to exchange ideas, strengthen networks, and explore pathways for advancing democratic governance and reform in the region.

WADEMOS Network Explores Opportunities for Cross-Regional Civil Society Cooperation



From May 19–21, the West Africa Democracy Solidarity Network (WADEMOS) undertook an Exploratory and Scoping Mission in Nairobi, Kenya, as part of its South-South Cooperation initiative aimed at strengthening collaboration among civil society actors across West, Central, and East Africa.

The mission sought to identify areas of convergence and opportunities for cooperation between civil society organisations and civic actors, with a particular focus on strengthening engagement with partners in East Africa on issues of democracy, governance, and civic participation.

The delegation brought together representatives from across the continent, including the Campaign for Good Governance (Sierra Leone), Ghana Center for Democratic

Development (Ghana), Alternatives Citoyennes (Chad), and the Elections Observation Group (Kenya).

CDD-Ghana Welcomes Royal College of Defence Studies Delegation on International Study Tour



On Wednesday, May 20, CDD-Ghana hosted an 18-member delegation from the United Kingdom Royal College of Defence Studies Global Strategy Program (RCDS GSP) as part of the College's international study tour.

The delegation, led by Lieutenant General George Norton (Retired), the Commandant of the College, participated in a briefing on "Promoting Democratic Accountability in Security Governance: The Role of Civil Society in Ghana."

Director of Policy Engagement and Partnerships, Dr. Kojo Asante, provided an overview of CDD-Ghana's history and role in promoting democratic governance, while Paul Nana Kwabena Mensah, Program Manager and Team Lead, Security Sector Governance and Local & Urban Governance, presented on Ghana's current political and security landscape and the importance of democratic oversight in the security sector.

The engagement provided a valuable platform for dialogue, learning, and the exchange of perspectives on governance, accountability, and security sector reform.

CDD-Ghana Participates in Dialogue on Election Observer Accreditation in Nairobi



The Director of Policy Engagement and Partnerships at the Center, Dr. Kojo Asante, participated in a joint dialogue on citizen election observer accreditation in Africa held in Nairobi, Kenya, from May 12 to 13, 2026. The dialogue was co-hosted by the National Democratic Institute, the Association of African Election Authorities, and the African Election Observers Network, and brought together election experts and stakeholders from nine (9) African countries.

The discussions focused on strengthening citizen election observation and improving accreditation processes to enhance transparency, accountability, and trust in elections across the continent. Participants also reviewed draft global guidelines on accreditation and shared experiences on challenges facing election observers and election management bodies.

Youth Unplugged Podcast



What the CRC Report Really Means for Young Ghanaians - Episode 11



By-Elections in Ghana: Strengthening Democracy or Straining the System? - Episode 10

Upcoming Events




21ST

KRONTI NE AKWAMU PUBLIC LECTURE

THEME

The Changing Global and Multilateral Rules-Based Order: Implications for Ghana and Africa's Strategic Positioning.

JULY 29, 2026

 **Mark your calendars**



Global rules are shifting; where do Ghana and Africa fit in?

CDD-Ghana's Kronti ne Akwamu Flagship Annual Public Lecture is the go-to platform for bold ideas and thought-provoking conversations on democracy and good governance.

This year, we tackle a critical question: as multilateral systems evolve, how can Ghana and Africa position themselves strategically in a changing global order?

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, July 29, 2026.

GCSF
Ghana Civil Society Forum

GCSO FORUM

25TH -26 JUNE, 2026

Theme
REIMAGINING PARTNERSHIPS FOR DEMOCRATIC CONSOLIDATION AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

GUEST OF HONOR:
H. E. JOHN DRAMANI MAHAMA
(PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC OF GHANA)

Time
9:00am

Venue
Accra

REGISTER VIA:
<https://register.eazytagg.com/K85p>

STAR GHANA FOUNDATION OXFAM norsaac WACSI g2cc CDD GMEF TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL GHANA

The Ghana Civil Society Forum (GCSF) 2026 will take place on June 25–26, 2026 in Accra under the theme “Reimagining Partnerships for Democratic Consolidation and Inclusive Development.”

The Forum will reflect on strategies for strengthening democratic governance and advancing inclusive development in Ghana.

H. E. John Dramani Mahama will be the Guest of Honor.

[Click here to register](#)

Publication(s)

- [Digging Deeper: Towards a Holistic Understanding of Chinese Participation in Ghana's Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector - Click here to read more](#)



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About CDD-Ghana

Established in 1998, the Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana) is an independent not-for-profit think-and-do-tank that works through research, policy engagement, thought leadership, and civic dialogue and partnerships to promote and strengthen democracy, good governance, and inclusive development in Ghana and the rest of Africa. A founding Core Partner (and Ghana National Partner) of Afrobarometer, CDD-Ghana is also the convener and secretariat for the Coalition of Domestic Election Observers (CODEO), West Africa Election Observers Network (WAEON), and West Africa Democracy Solidarity Network (WADEMOS).

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