

ENERGY FORUM

Minister of Petroleum delivering his keynote address at the Africa Oil Governance Summit



In this Issue

Energy Personality – Joseph Kwadwo Asenso, PhD

ACEP in the News – Media Interviews and Interactions

Up Close with Ishmael Ackah (PhD), ACEP's Head of Policy Unit

ACEP Programmes for the Month – Africa Oil Governance Summit, GROW Project

MESSAGE

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Dear Readers,

It is yet another month and we are excited to bring you another interesting edition of the Energy Forum. The month of November has been innovative as ACEP organized its maiden Africa Oil Governance Summit (AOGS) which is the very first of its kind in Africa. The AOGS aimed at bringing relevant stakeholders of Africa oil producing countries to build consensus on how Africa can manage its oil wealth and adopt policies to deepen the continent's oil governance. Indeed, the AOGS was very successful and we look forward to more of it in the subsequent years.

ACEP in collaboration with OXFAM in Ghana has rolled out the GROW Project which is a campaign to invest oil revenues in agriculture.

We also took time to interview the Head of our Policy Unit, Dr. Ishmael Ackah and you will be pleased to know more about him. As usual, we have our 'Energy Personality' column and in this edition, we have featured Dr. Kwadwo Asenso. You will find more about him as you read his interesting profile.

You will also find other programs we held this past month and some media interactions. We wish you an enjoyable read and look forward to more exciting stories in the upcoming month.

Cheers!

Editorial Board

MEET ISHMAEL ACKAH (PhD), ACEP'S HEAD OF POLICY UNIT



Question: If you were to tell one person, "thank you" for helping you become who you are today, who would it be and why?

Response: That will be my mom, Mrs. Lucy Gyansah Quacoe (Lucy Asante). My parents divorced when I was even less than one year old and since then my mom took sole responsibility of me. She took very good care of me, being a single parent and saw me through all my schooling from primary to tertiary. Furthermore, she believes in me so much, in all my decision-making and aspirations. She always encourages me never to worry about financial constraints but to go ahead and pursue my dreams because she will support me no matter the cost, and she sure did. Even when I fail, she encourages me which always made me feel so good that I forgot that sometimes I failed. She indeed is my heroine; she is my woman!

Question: What has been your most memorable experience with ACEP?

Response: (Laughs). Well, that would be my first time on television discussing energy issues in Ghana. It was not something I had anticipated doing soon but then that opportunity came and I had to be on a shows on TV3. It was a good eye opener for me; and I still remember some of the mistakes I made.

Question: What do you do in your less busy moments?

Response: I watch cartoons such as "Family Guy", "Sponge Guy", "The Simpsons", "Rio", "Batman", "Alvin and the Chipmunks", "Looney Tunes" and others.

Question: What motivated you to go into energy policy?

Response: Ghana's oil find and the thought that I could contribute something essential to the industry. Initially, I had wanted to do energy policy in the academia, lecturing and doing research. However, coming to ACEP, the difference has not been much since it also involves a lot of research.

Question: What triggers or excites you in life?

Response: Wow, well, I am one person who finds knowledge to be very sexy. I love to search for more knowledge and I love to read more. Every day, I make sure I read something.

Question: What is your idea of a 'perfect day'?

Response: For me, a perfect day is when I wake up in the morning not tired, come to work early, and contribute tangibly to organizational tasks and reports. Then go home, spend some time with my wife, bathe together, watch cartoons together and sleep.

Question: What is your favorite song?

Response: My favorite song is "I have no other God but you" by Nathaniel Bassey.

ENERGY PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH



Joseph Kwadwo Asenso, PhD

Dr. Asenso graduated with an MPhil degree in Economics from the University of Ghana after having graduated with BA Economics from the same institution. He was instrumental in the resuscitation of the Economic Planning Division of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MoFEP) when he joined in 2005. He is currently the Team Leader of the Knowledge Economy and Services Unit of the Real Sector Division, MoFEP, where he is involved in research, policy analysis and advice. He heads the

Oil and Gas Unit at MOFEP. He worked briefly as a research assistant with the Venture Capital Trust Fund in 2007, on secondment from MoFEP, during which period he co-authored a proposal on alternative funding for the Fund. He went on to pursue a PhD in Economics at the Oita University, Japan, specializing in econometrics and monetary economics. He has authored and co-authored four books and a number of published articles in his areas of specialization.

ACEP'S PROGRAMMES FOR NOVEMBER

AFRICA OIL GOVERNANCE SUMMIT IS LAUNCHED!

The maiden Africa Oil Governance Summit finally came to life on the 23rd and 24th of November, 2015 at the Labadi Beach Hotel in Accra. The summit saw representatives of the energy sector from across the world. Relevant stakeholders from Uganda, Mozambique, Kenya, United States, Tanzania and of course Ghana, among many others, converged to deliberate on the oil governance in Africa. One key point highlighted during this two-day summit was to understand that the missing

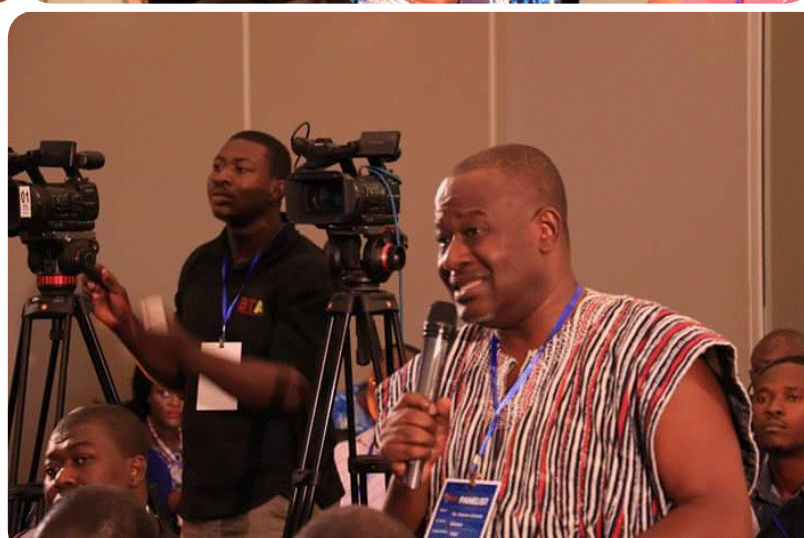
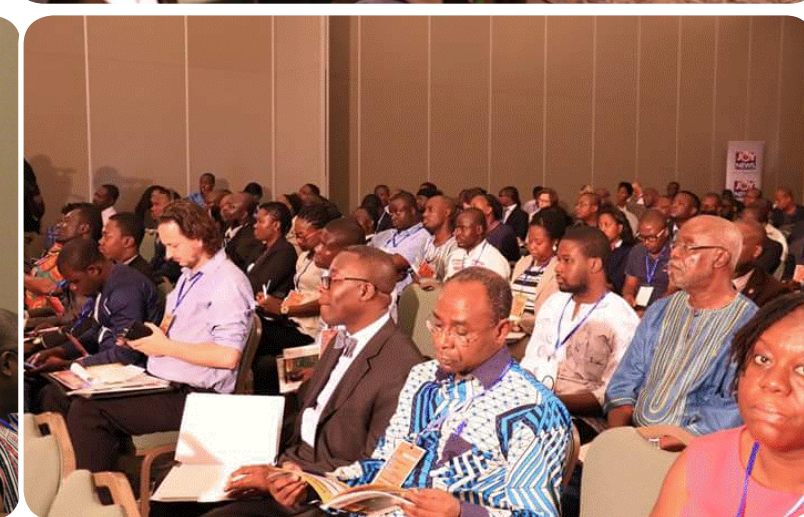
link between oil wealth and development is good governance. It is therefore important for Africa to develop strong structures and frameworks to develop and deepen oil governance to benefit from its oil resource and avoid the oil curse.

In attendance was the Minister of Petroleum, Members of Parliaments and representatives of international oil companies.

Traditional drumming and dancing to welcome participants



Audience interface





Media interface

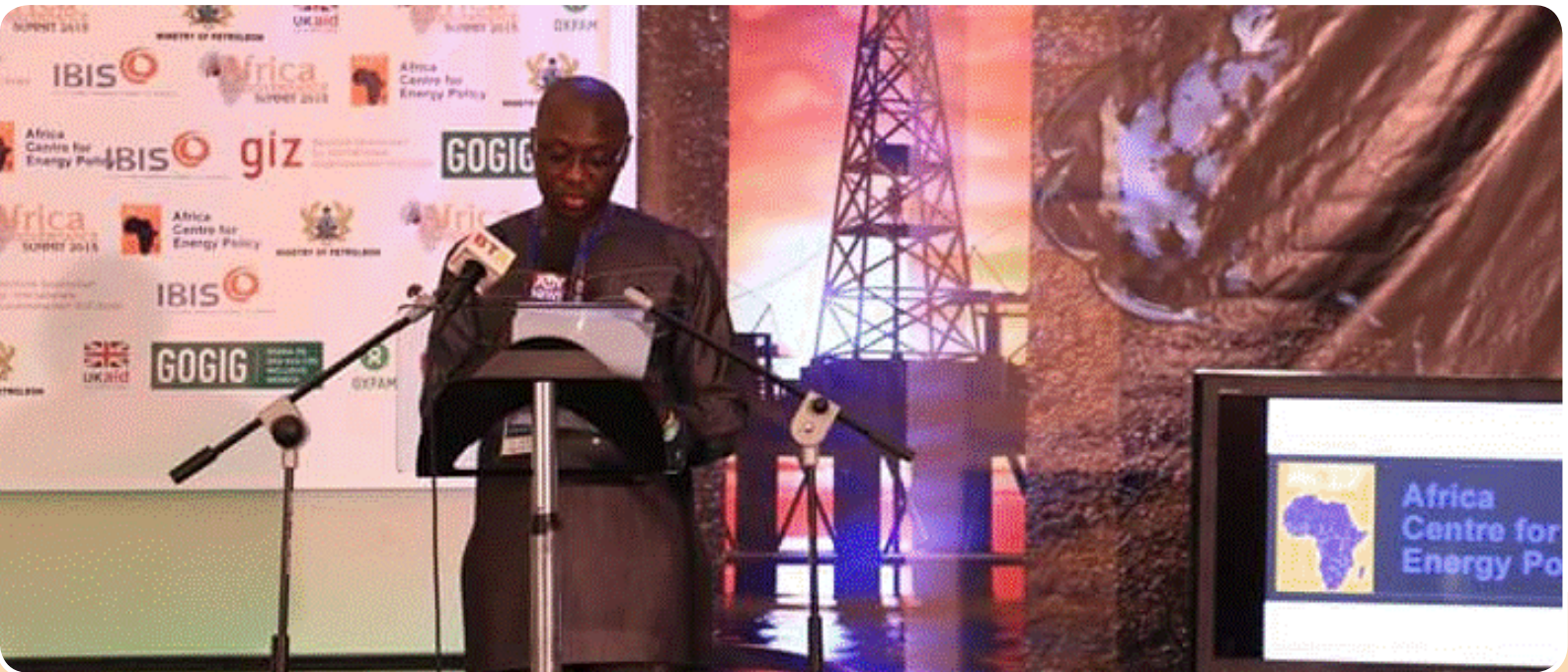


Registration



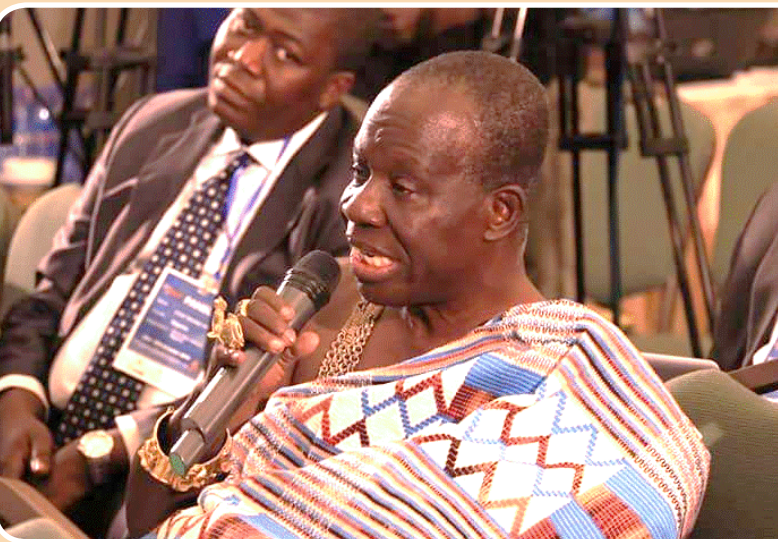
Delivery of speeches





Panel discussions







Stakeholders and participants interacting





ACEP staff represented





Dinner at the Kempinski Hotel with ACEP staff and foreign resource persons



GROW PROJECT

ACEP in collaboration with OXFAM executes grow project at four tertiary institutions in the Northern, Greater Accra, Ashanti and Brong Ahafo Regions. Speaking to students of the various institutions during this campaign, the Head of Policy Unit Dr. Ishmael Ackah said “The jubilee field has an expected time span of 25years. Already, Ghana has produced oil for 5 years. However, because oil revenues are spread thinly over many projects, little can be shown from the 3.2billion Ghana has received. Dr. Ishmael emphasized that ACEP is advocating for oil revenues to be invested into agriculture to ensure Ghana has food sufficiency, reduce import bills and use agriculture as basis for industrialization.

The GROW Campaign was executed at the University of

Development Studies in the Northern Region, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in the Ashanti Region, University of Renewable Energy in the Brong Ahafo Region and University of Professional Studies in the Greater Accra Region.



ACEP IN THE NEWS

Press Conference On The Communique From The First Africa Oil And Gas Governance Summit

ACEP on the 30th of November, 2015 released the communiqué of its maiden Africa Oil Governance Summit to the media.



ACEP IN DAKAR - 2015 PAN AFRICAN REGIONAL EDUCATION POLICY FORUM

The three day event which was led by the Executive Director of ACEP Dr. Mohammed Amin Adam and the Head of Programs Mr. Seji Saji saw ACEP training the Extractive Industry and Transparency Initiative group and CSOs of Senegal.



ACEP as an organization believes that the way forward in good oil governance is to first strengthen organizations through knowledge sharing to help pursue the agenda of accountability. The program which was attended by various groups was well received.



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