
GHANA

Despite achieving lower middle-income country status in 2010, Ghana ranks 139th out of 188 countries on the UNDP's 2016 Human Development Index. Pockets of vulnerability and poverty remain in many parts of the country, including northern Ghana, where 54% of the population lives below the poverty line.

Gender equality remains a concern. Ghana ranks in the "worst performing" category of countries in the UNDP's 2016 Gender Development Index. Agriculture is Ghana's largest employer, yet 80% of farmers live below the poverty line. More than 2.2 million Ghanaians cannot afford to feed themselves an adequate number of calories per day.

Similarly, only 15% of Ghanaians have access to adequate sanitation services. This factor significantly contributes to poor health outcomes and child mortality due to diarrhea-related illnesses. Unsustainable natural resource management practices, partly in response to climate-related stress, are affecting water availability and land productivity.

To address these needs, Canada focuses on the poorest and most vulnerable communities and seeks to address growing inequalities. Programming supports agriculture as an engine for inclusive growth, as well as an important area of investment to address the needs of Ghana's poorest families. It supports climate-smart, resilient agriculture, specifically targeting women farmers.

