

**Ghana National Education Campaign Coalition
(GNECC)**

Report on Stand Up Campaign in schools-2008

**Submitted to the Stand Up Campaign Secretariat,
Accra**

Background

The Ghana National Education Campaign Coalition is the host agency for the education platform of the Millennium Development Goals platform in Ghana. This year's Stand up against poverty campaign took place in churches, workplaces, mosques and in schools. The report outlines the various activities carried out by the Coalition during the Stand up against poverty campaign.

The Launch: The Coalition was instrumental in the planning and organizational processes leading to the launch of the stand up campaign which took place at the International Press Centre on November, 2008. The Coalition gave a solidarity message on the relevance of quality education in sustainably ending poverty.

Public Forum on Peasant farmers and poverty in Ghana: As part of its commitment to partnering the Stand Up campaign to end poverty, the Coalition also participated in a forum on peasant farmers in Ghana and poverty eradication Kofi Asare, program officer presented a paper on the above topic with representatives from the National Union of Ghana Students, Christian Council and other CSOs as participants. The session was chaired by the GNECC Chair, Bright Appiah.

The Stand Up campaign schools. (17th October 2008) The major activity which the Coalition organized with funding from the Stand up campaign in Ghana was the stand up in schools where about 100,000 pupils from all ten regions in Ghana. In all 100 schools nationwide took part in the campaign.

Regional Updates:

Greater Accra: The centre of attraction in Greater Accra region is the Garrison Junior High School Cluster of Schools at the Burma Camp. The largest number of pupils who stood up was recorded there as well. Over 10,000 pupils and 186 teachers stood up against poverty and gave a strong indication in the speech that "we won't fight poverty sitting". Over 3,000 pupils signed their signatures on the campaign banner to voice out their support for an end to poverty.



Central Region: The Regional Coordinating team of GNECC visited ten school in the Cape coast municipality to observe the stand up campaign. The team distributed IEC materials including T shirts ,posters and stand up flyers. At the Cheriubim and Seraphim basic school, 1,300 pupils stood up against poverty and had the highest record of numbers in the central region. The day was observed in nine other schools including Jacob Wilson Sey primary school, Catholic Jubilee Boys JHS, St Nicholas Anglican JHS, Pedu M/A Basic School, St Lawrence Catholic School among others. The was a live coverage by the YES FM a local radio station during its mid day news where school children voiced out the need for our leaders to invest in quality education to end poverty.

Eastern Region: The Stand Up and take action initiative is a global mobilization towards achieving one of the MDGs which is to end poverty and inequality. People were asked to take action by Standing up to Recite the Stand up Pledge. Ten primary and Junior High Schools in the Eastern Region including Tinkong D/A JHS, Tinkong SDA Primary/JHS, Adawso Catholic Basic Schools, Adawso Presby primary, Miracle Child Academy and Nyamebekyere D/A Primary stood up and with the help of their teachers recited the Stand up Pledge. In all 9,400 school children stood up against poverty.



Pupils in Tinkong Primary in the Eastern Region stand up against poverty.

The Northern Regions: The Northern Network for Education Development (NNED) is GNECCs representative in the three Northern regions in Ghana-Northern, Upper East and Upper West .NNED supervised the stand up campaign in over 32 schools in the three northern regions. Eventhough enrolment levels in the northern regions is the lowest nationwide, an average of 600 pupils per school was recorded totaling 19,400 pupils who stood up against poverty. Among the schools that observed the stand up day were St Kizito JHS A Bole, Dinu Girls JHs East Gonja, St Anthony JHS East Gonja ,St Anthony Prim Salaga, Salaga Islamic JHS .Salaga Presby

JHS East Gonja, St Kizito JHS B Bole, Gumani Methodist JHS Tamale, Kanvilli Presby JHS Tamale Metro, Tuori LA Prim Nadowli District .Ouwlo Prim, Nadowli UWR, Saligba JHS Bongo UER.

Volta Region: In the Volta region, the stand up campaign was observed in Sogakope. GNECCs District Education For All Teams, DEFATs and the regional coordinator mobilized eleven schools in the Sogakope township to observe the stand up campaign. 10,620 pupils stood up against poverty in the Volta Region. They included teachers and other education practitioners who supported as volunteers. Stand up stickers, flyers and T' shirts were distributed to some participants. Among the participating schools were SOGASCO primary/JHS, Sogakope Junior High School A and B, Living Faith Preparatory School, Conboni Junior High School, Sokpoe Junior High School among others

Ashanti Region: Ten schools participated in the stand up campaign in the Ashanti Region. The regional Coordinator Mr. Owusu John and Secretary Mr. Christopher Dappah led schools in observing the day. An average of 1,000 per school participated in the campaign which involved schools in the Kumasi metropolis. Among the schools that took part of the campaign was St. Theresa's r/c junior high school, Asawasi Methodist Junior High School, State experimental m/a primary school, Sokorban m/a junior high school, State experimental junior high school, state experimental upper primary, Atonsu block a. junior high school, Presby Junior High School and Yaa Achia girl's junior high school.

Western Region: The stand up campaign in the Western Region took place in ten schools in the Amenfi East District. The GNECC regional Coordinator, Mr Anthony Darko and his team collaborated with the District Education directorate to observe the stand up campaign. In all 7800 school pupils and teachers observed the stand up in the Saamang Roman Catholic School, Trust preparatory school, Mamieso D/A Primary School, Wantran D/A Primary/JHS, Amenfiman Model JHS, New Age Academy among others. Stand up campaign T' shirts were made available to volunteers who facilitated the event and some teachers.



Pupils stand up at Mamieso D/A Primary School

Brong Ahafo Region: Brong Ahafo Regional Coordinator, Mr. Afena Sam led regional executives to mobilize ten schools in the Sunyani Municipality, the Capital of Brong Ahafo to observe the Stand up campaign in schools. The region recorded about 9,700 numbers of pupils and teachers who stood up and recited the stand up pledge at 8:30 am. Schools included both public and private schools. Among the participating schools were

Conclusion

The school authorities commented among other things that the Stand up and take Action initiative is indeed laudable and that it is their fervent hope that “the gap between the rich and the poor will be minimized” they were also happy to be part of “*millions of voices standing in solidarity to demand an end to poverty*” in the end, the school community was hopeful that their voices will be heard and that appropriate actions will be taken by governments all over the world to eradicate poverty.