

Tourism, Arts and Culture Stakeholders meet to strategize on how to boost the industry.

The Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MoTA) has held its Mid-Year Review Workshop, at Koforidua in the Eastern Region.

The Workshop reviewed the sector's performance by defining the way forward in addressing the bottlenecks hindering the advancement of the Ghana's Tourism, Arts and Culture Sector.

The event took place from Thursday, July 11th to Friday, July 12, 2019.





Delivering her key note address, the Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Hon. Barbara Oteng- Gyasi, implored the Heads of institutions under the Ministry to collaborate effectively as a team, by helping President Akuffo Addo to make a positive impact on the country's Tourism, Arts and Culture Sector, adding that H. E. Nana Akuffo Addo expects the Sector to thrive by changing the narratives in advancing on the socio-cultural and economic aspects of Ghana's Tourism Industry.

Hon. Barbara Gyasi, who also doubles up as the Member of Parliament (MP) for the Prestea Huni Valley, stressed that her core mandate is to see to the realization of the passage of the Creative Arts Bill, which will lead to the Establishment of the Creative Arts Fund, and is currently before parliament in its amendment stage awaiting its consideration before approval.

She intimated that the industry players in the sector must

feel the needed impact of the current NPP's government, hence, her drive to push for that agenda.

She said the Regional Theatres would also see some major facelift, and Koforidua and Kumasi theatres has seen some significant transformation and would be replicated to other parts of the country.

On the Music Industry, She remarks that she is also assiduously working for the practitioners in the Ghana's Music Industry to have value in monetizing their music Creativities by making Copy Right Court comes into fruition.

She used the rare privilege to charge the Agency Heads to endeavour to deliver on their actionable plans that would see them delivering on their core mandates.

In his welcome remarks, the Deputy Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Hon. Dr. Ziblim Iddi Barri, urged the Agency heads under the Ministry to give their unflinching support to Hon.Barbara Oteng-Gyasi.

This according to him will further re-position the Ministry in its transformational agenda expected to be delivered by H. E. Nana Akuffo Addo's government.

He further used the rare occasion to express his confidence in the leadership of Hon.Barbara Oteng Gyasi's ability to provide the requisite leadership that will turn the fortunes of the Sector, stressing, that the Industry Players must endeavour to support the Minister to achieve that feat.

On his part, the MoTAC World Bank Project Coordinator, Dr.Jacob Doodu highlighted on the prospects of the Forty Million (GhC 40) Grant Facility extended to the country's tourism sector.

He emphasized that the overriding goal of the project is to

significantly transform Ghana's Tourism Sector by upgrading the existing tourism facilities across the country.

According Dr. Doodu, The project is anchored on four components and are catalogued as follows:

Strengthening Tourism Enabling Environment,
Developing Tourism Sites and Destinations,
Tourism Enterprise Support Programme and
Project Management Component.

On her part, the Director, Hotel, Catering and Tourism Training, Institute (HOTCATT) Ms.Petrina Etu-Mantey Parkins, during her turn of presentation stressed that her outfit has been revamped awaiting some logistical resource to begin admission from September, this year.

The C. E. O of the Ghana Tourism Authority (GTA) Mr. Akwasi Agyemang, emphasized that there was the dire need for all the Agency Heads of the Ministry to meet with the Finance Minister to consider up scaling the tourism sector budgetary allocations.

The Board Chairman of the National theatre, Nana Fredua Ofori Atta, in his contribution to the discussion, challenged MoTAC,s Agency Heads to put forward value for money proposal and argument that would warrant the Finance Minister to allocate the needed financial resources to the sector.

At the event, Eleven (11) Heads of Agencies of the Ministry, took turns to deliver their presentation on their institutions progress status.

Background

The Mid-Year Review workshop is an annual Mid-Year reviewed assessment by MMDAs to appreciate the progress status of thveir Sector Ministry and to also address the lingering challenges with regards to their Ministries.

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