

RESEARCH AND PRACTICE EVIDENCE ACTIVITIES

⇒ 'GHANA SPEAKS' – Media Briefing on the Results of the Survey on the Level of Enthusiasm for Ghana's Referendum on Multiparty Local Government



The Institute of Local Government Studies conducted a scientific Opinion poll on the national Referendum which was to be held on 17th December 2019. The Referendum was to enable citizens decide whether an entrenched clause in the 1992 Constitution (Article 55 (3)) needed to be amended to pave the way for political parties in Ghana to participate in the organisation of local government elections.



A voter turn out of at least 40% and 75% YES votes was needed to affirm the government's desire to amend that clause in the Constitution. The amendment if passed would have triggered devolution and a new form democratic local governance in Ghana.

ILGS on 18th November, 2019 presented the findings *of the Opinion Poll conducted on the Referendum to various media houses and stakeholders.*

The survey sampled 6,494 registered voters out of 16,845,364 from the 44 Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) in all the 16 regions in the country.

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Research and Practice Evidence Activities

- ◇ Media briefing 'Ghana Speaks'
- ◇ Stakeholder Engagements

Publications

- ◇ Newsletters
- ◇ Policy briefs
- ◇ News articles

Editorial Team

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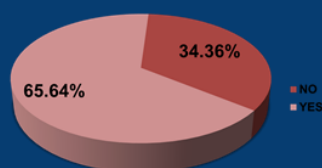
⇒ 'GHANA SPEAKS' – Media Briefing on the Results of the Survey on the Level of Enthusiasm for Ghana's Referendum on Multiparty Local Government

The scientific Opinion Poll was on whether or not registered voters:

- Were aware of the upcoming referendum
- Understood the reasons for organising the referendum
- Would participate in the referendum
- Would vote YES or NO
- Of specific groups (gender, age, education, employment status, geographical location or strongholds of political parties) would have any influence on voting patterns.

Summary of key findings

- ◆ 66% awareness rate
- ◆ 54% explained that the referendum was about amendment of Article 55(3)
- ◆ 43% Referendum was about election of MMDCs
- ◆ Only 3% had "no idea" what it was



about.

- ◆ Voter awareness of the referendum at 66%, 4 weeks to the Election Day was commendable giving that media campaign started late.
- ◆ Campaign should have focused on explaining the essence of the referendum.
- ◆ Only 54% could explain it.

- ◆ The challenge to campaigners was how to explain the essence of the referendum without linking it to the election of MMDCs.
- ◆ If the referendum was held at the time of the survey 67% of registered voters would have turned out
- ◆ 27 percentage points above voter turnout at LG elections but below referendum to create regions.
- ◆ Regions that required intensive campaign to boost voter participation were Greater Accra (50%), Western North (53%), Eastern (54%).
- ◆ The three regions constituted about 30% of the registered voters hence had significant effect on the referendum.
- ◆ If the referendum was organized a week earlier 75% of the voters would have voted YES.

- ◆ Results showed a lot of hope for YES campaigners with 4 weeks to go.
- ◆ As at the previous week, 'NO' vote did not stand any chance of winning.
- ◆ There was little difference between voters' preference for YES or NO votes in both NPP and NDC strongholds.
- ◆ Study was completed the day before NDC declared its preference for a NO vote. Then 2 days after the national house of chiefs
- ◆ Likely effect of the 2 pronouncements on voters' opinion remains to be seen.

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STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS



1



2



3

1

Engagement with Chiefs in the Central and Eastern Regions of Ghana

2

Inauguration of the Afadzato South District Assembly

3

Inauguration of Hohoe Municipal Assembly

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Call for Articles

We invite articles for future additions of the Newsletters. Interested organisations and individuals can consider providing a short item of news or an in depth article related to the objectives of the LGPF or any current issue of interest for the next edition of the newsletters.

The articles can be submitted in the following structure:

- Current and news oriented
- Articles should be submitted in Word format.

All articles which are selected for publication will be proof read for content, spelling and grammatical errors.

Word count:

- News items – 50 to 200 words.

Articles should include section headings.

Pictures, Illustrations, tables, sidebars are encouraged to illustrate and emphasize the message.

Submission

Please send your contributions to lgpf@gmail.com or 0596060212

Submission deadlines

- Monthly—by the end of the 3rd week in EVERY Month

We are looking forward to receiving your submissions.

Thank you

PUBLICATIONS

Newsletters

The Newsletters Will be published monthly which will feature events, articles and a gallery of events that promotes the objectives of the LGPF in Ghana.

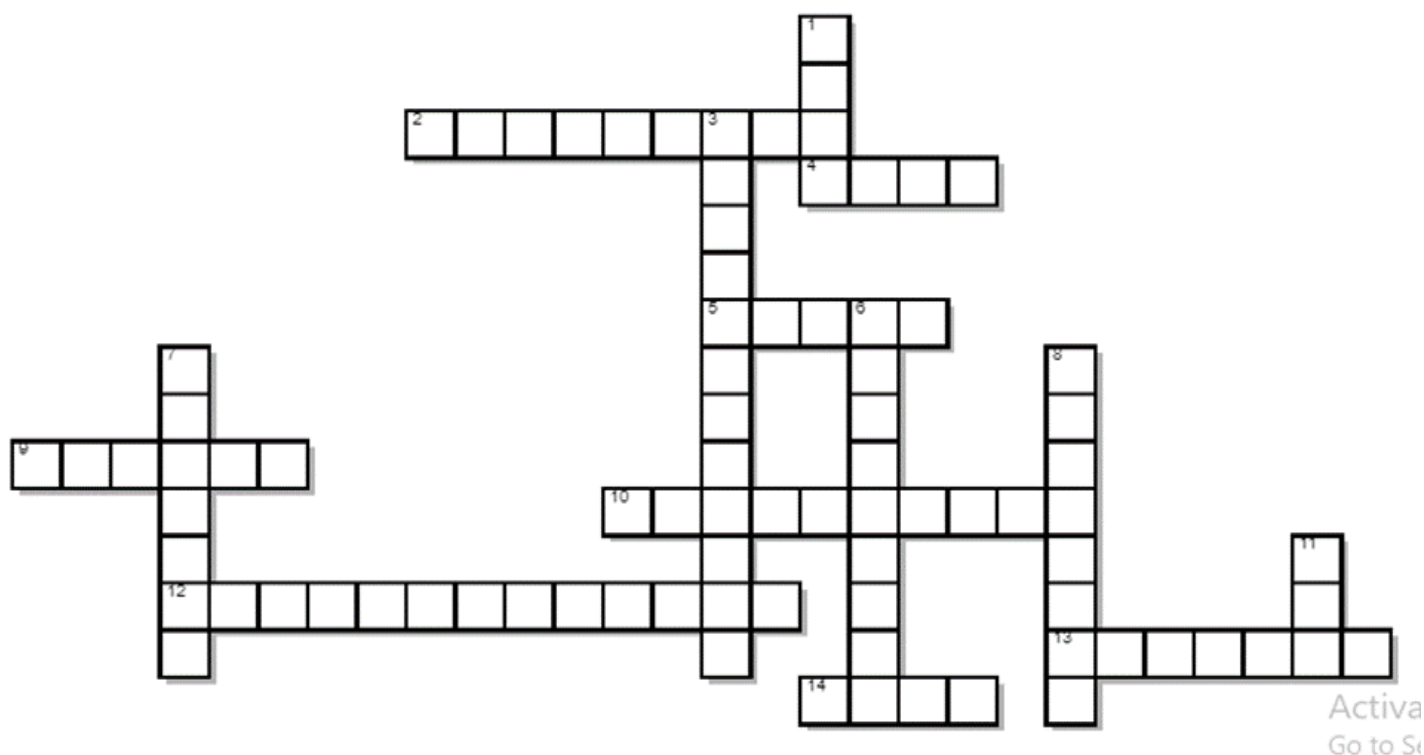
Policy Briefs

The LGPF Policy and Practice Briefs aims to provide high quality analysis and practical recommendations for varied policy actors on decentralisation, local governance and development issues

News articles

News articles on LGPF and issues on local governance will be featured in the newsletters.

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Clue

LGPF, ILGS, INCLUDE, STAR, IMCCoD, TWO, LOCAL, DEEPENING, INTELLECTUAL, OPINION, DEVELOPMENTAL, NATIONWIDE, DIRECTOR, ADVANCING

Across

2. One other major policy isof democratic decentralisation (devolution)
4. LGPF is supported by.....Ghana Foundation
5. One major policy is..... economic development
9. LGPF is supported by.....
10. On 17th December, 2019, areferendum would have been conducted
12.democratic decentralisation
- 13.....Poll
14. Acronym for Local Governance Practitioners Forum.....

Down

1. LGPF is hosted by.....
3. The LGPF platform aims to bring both..... and policy discussions back to national agenda
6.Democratic Local Governance
7. LGPF is supported by.....
8.of ILGS, Dr. Nicholas Awortwi
11. The objectives of the platform resonate with..... major government policies

Contact Us



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