



**28TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR
DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)**

Science, Technology and Innovation Parks Development in Ghana

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Presentation Outline

01

Introduction

02

Policies, Plans & Strategic Documents

03

Development of STI Parks, Incubators, & Accelerators in Ghana

04

Training Programmes for the Development of STI Parks & Incubators

05

Support for STI Parks Incubators & Accelerators in Ghana

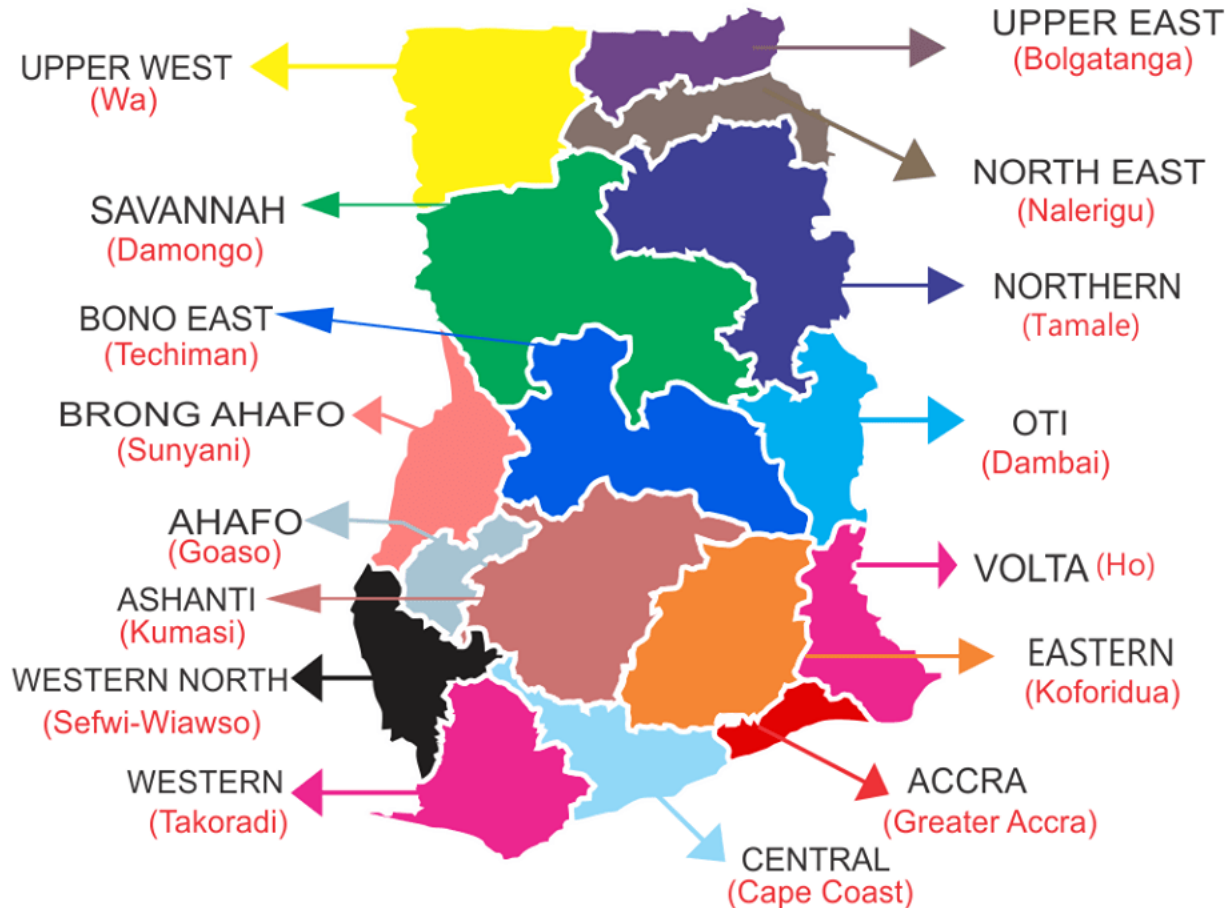
05

Challenges and Recommendations for STI Parks Development

Ghana Country Profile

THE NEW GHANA MAP

Regions And Their Capitals



Country Profile

- **Official Name:** Republic of Ghana
- **Capital:** Accra
- **Official Language:** English
- **Currency:** Ghanaian Cedi (GHS)
- **Location:** West Africa (Neighbours – Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Togo)
- **Government Type:** Presidential Republic
- **President:** HE. John Dramani Mahama
- **Area:** Approximately 238,533 square kilometers (92,098 square miles)
- **Population:** 33.48 million (2022)
- The country is characterized by a rich cultural diversity, with over 70 ethnic groups, including the Akan, Mole-Dagbani, Ewe, and Ga-Dangme.
- **GDP:** 73.7 billion USD (2022)
- **Economy:** Ghana's economy is diverse, with significant contributions from agriculture, mining, and services. The country is a major producer of cocoa, gold, and oil. Recent economic growth has been driven by investments in infrastructure and technology.
- Service Sector (44.1%); Industry (31.52%) and agriculture (18.78%), Others

Introduction

- Ghana recognizes the role of science, technology, and innovation (STI) as critical drivers for sustainable development.
- The country has actively integrated STI into its national development framework to address key challenges and promote inclusive growth.
- Ghana has developed an STI for SDGs Roadmap, which outlines key activities towards the development of the STI ecosystem and the attainment of SDG goals.





Legislations, Policies, Plans & Institutional Frameworks

- SDG 2030, Africa Union Agenda 2063, STISA 2034, ECOWAS Vision 2050/ECOPOST.
- Long-Term National Development Plan of Ghana (2018-2057).
- Coordinated Programmes of Economic and Social Development Policies (2017-2014).
- National Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy (2024 – 2030).
- National Innovation System (NIS) Strategy.
- Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC) Act 2013 (Act 865)
- Renewable Energy Act, 2011 (Act 832).
- Free Zones Act, 1995 (Act 504).
- National Communications Authority (NCA) Policy and Framework.

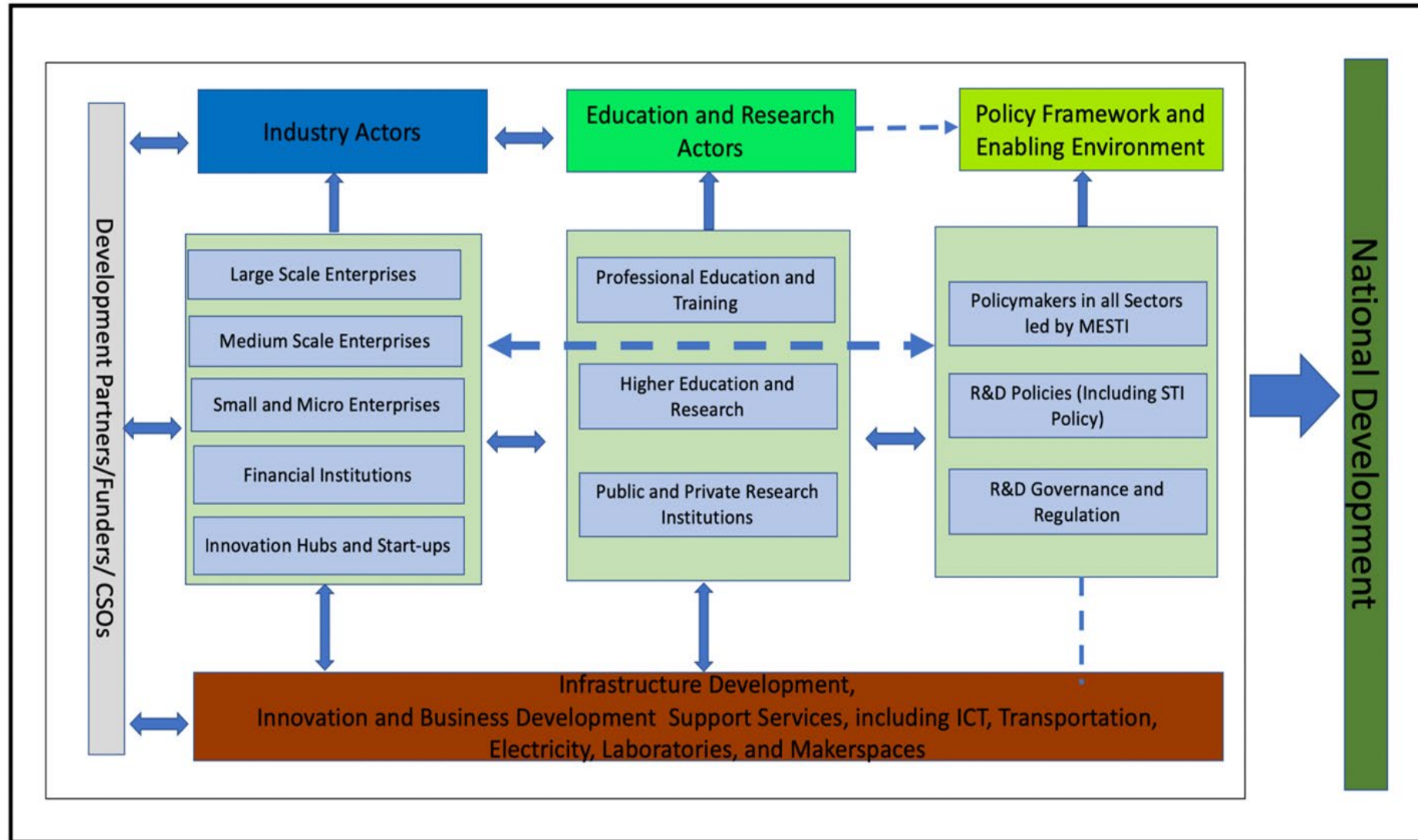


Development of STI Parks, Incubators, & Accelerators in Ghana

Other Policy Instruments for STI Parks Developments and Technology Transfer

- Ghana National Research Fund Act, 2020, (Act 1056)
- Trademarks Act, 2004 (Act 664)
- Patents Act, 2003 (Act 657)
- Technology Transfer Regulations, 1992 (L.I. 1547)
- Copyright Act, 2005 (Act 690)
- Trade Secrets Protection Act, 2009 (Act 831)
- Industrial Designs Act, 2003 (Act 660)
- Trade and Investment Act, 2020 (Act 1058)
- Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) Act, 2020 (Act 1039)
- Protection Against Unfair Competition Act, 2000 (Act 589)

Actors in Ghana's STI Ecosystem & Linkages





Development of STI Parks, Incubators, & Accelerators in Ghana Cont'd

- The Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology (MEST) is at the forefront of establishing and strengthening technology parks, incubators and innovation hubs.
- MEST is mandated to provide startups and micros, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) with the necessary infrastructure, mentorship, and access to funding to stimulate innovation, growth, and job creation.
- Ghana has 8 industrial parks at various stages of development and over 44 innovation hubs, incubators, or accelerators.



Sci-Tech Parks in Ghana: Notable Examples

Accra Technology Park (ATP)

Location: Accra

Overview: ATP is a key initiative designed to provide modern infrastructure, office spaces, and support services for technology and knowledge-based enterprises. It aims to be a hub for innovation, housing tech startups, research institutions, and multinational companies.

Facilities: Includes high-tech laboratories, office spaces, and conference facilities



Sci-Tech Parks in Ghana: Notable Examples

Kumasi Hive

Location: Kumasi

Overview: Kumasi Hive is an innovation hub and technology park focusing on startups in the fields of technology and engineering. It provides co-working spaces, training, and support for entrepreneurs and innovators.

Facilities: Maker spaces, prototype development labs, and training programs.



Incubators in Ghana : Notable Examples

Meltwater Entrepreneurial School of Technology (MEST)

Location: Accra

Overview: MEST is a prominent incubator and training program that supports technology startups in Africa. It offers a rigorous entrepreneurship training program, mentorship, and seed funding to startups.

Support: Includes business training, office space, funding opportunities, and a strong network of mentors and investors.



Incubators in Ghana : Notable Examples Cont'd

The African Fintech Foundry (AFF)

Location: Accra

Overview: AFF focuses on supporting fintech startups through acceleration programs, mentorship, and access to industry experts. It aims to promote innovation within the financial technology sector.

Support: Provides access to industry experts, mentorship, and potential funding opportunities.



Incubators in Ghana : Notable Examples Cont'd

Hub Accra

Location: Accra

Overview: Hub Accra is an incubator that provides co-working spaces, networking events, and support services for startups and entrepreneurs in Ghana. It aims to foster a collaborative environment for innovation and business growth.

Support: Includes office space, networking opportunities, and access to resources and mentorship.



Training Programmes Towards the Development of STI Parks and Incubators

- The government of Ghana provided Financial support to selected hubs towards capacity building under the Ghana Economic Transformation Project.
- UNCTAD, under the STI Parks for Sustainable Development Project, provided a 10-day practical and hands-on training in Wuhan and Shenzhen for 14 STI park operators, policymakers, and researchers from Ghana in September and July 2024.
- UNCTAD organized a three-day training in Ghana for over 40 policymakers, STI park practitioners, researchers and academics engaged in STI policy studies, technology transfer, and commercialization of research in February 2025.

Training Programmes Towards the Development of STI Parks and Incubators Cont'd





Support for STI Parks Incubators & Accelerators In Ghana

- Enhanced collaborations between MEST and the Ministry of Trade, Agribusiness and Industry to coordinate the development of STI parks and incubators in Ghana.
- Provision of a physical space for incubators and accelerators such as the Ghana Innovation Hub.
- The government has instituted Venture Capital Trust Fund to provide funding for startups, particularly those within STI parks and incubators.
- Government, through the National Board for Small Scale Industries (NBSSI), offers training, advisory services, and funding for SMEs, including those in STI parks and incubators.



Support for STI Parks Incubators & Accelerators In Ghana Cont'd

- The government's ICT for Accelerating Development (ICT4D) initiative supports STI parks and incubators, through improved access to digital tools, broadband infrastructure, and technical support.
- Ghana Enterprise Agency is a key government body that supports SMEs, including those in STI parks and incubators or accelerators
- The government, through Ghana Investment Promotion Centre, attracts both local and foreign investment into STI parks and technology startups in Ghana.
- The government has put in place various tax incentives and grants for businesses operating within STI parks, incubators, and accelerators to reduce the cost of doing business

Challenges of STI Parks Development

- Insufficient Funding and Investment
- Inadequate Infrastructure
- Limited Access to Skilled Human Capital
- Weak Linkages between Academia, Industry, and Government, leading to limited commercialization of research outputs or practical solutions within the STI parks.
- Fragmented policy and regulatory environment, thereby impeding effective management and development of STI parks.



Way Forward and Ghana's Commitment

- Speed up effective implementation of national STI policy by implementing strategies that prioritize research and development investments, financing for STI capacity and enhancing the management of STI parks.
- Enhance the capacity of existing institutions to better support STI initiatives and improve collaboration among stakeholders with a focus on building a more cohesive network that effectively drives innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Promote inclusivity by ensuring that STI initiatives are accessible to a broader range of participants, particularly marginalized groups, for overall effectiveness and impact of the STI initiatives.
- Equip individuals and organizations within the STI ecosystem with the skills and knowledge required to thrive. This includes targeted training programmes for entrepreneurs, researchers and policy makers.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION