

2026 Budget Insights

The 2026 Budget Statement and Economic Policy of
Government of Ghana

November 2025



The better the question. The better the answer. The better the world works.



Shape the future
with confidence

A Message from the Country Managing Partner



Emmanuel Adekahlor
Country Managing Partner

We are pleased to share EY's Budget Insights following the presentation of the 2026 Budget Statement and Economic Policy to Parliament by the Honourable Minister for Finance.

This year's budget, themed **"Resetting the Economy for Growth, Jobs and Economic Transformation,"** aims at Consolidating Macroeconomic Stability, Accelerating Economic Transformation and Job Creation, and Strengthening Security and Social Sectors for Inclusive Growth.

In this publication, we provide a comprehensive review of the budget, including an analysis of historical performance, budget estimates, key initiatives introduced, and our perspective on selected measures. We trust you will find these insights valuable as Ghana charts its course toward sustainable growth and transformation.



Global economic outlook

The global economic environment remains uncertain, shaped by intersecting geopolitical risks and rapid technological realignment. Global economic growth is projected to slow down from 3.2% in 2025 to 3.1% in 2026, with advanced economies experiencing modest expansion amid persistent policy uncertainty. The United States is expected to grow by 2.1% in 2026, supported by a resilient labour market, while Europe faces slower recovery. Emerging markets continue to anchor global momentum, with China and India projected to grow at 4.8% and 6.2% respectively.



Overview of Ghana's economic performance - 2025

Despite global economic headwinds, Ghana delivered strong progress in 2025, underscoring resilience and renewed macroeconomic discipline. Real GDP growth reached 6.3% in the first half of the year, driven by robust performance in the services and agricultural sectors. Notably, non-oil GDP expanded by 7.8%, highlighting the growing importance of domestic production and consumption rather than overdependence on the extractive sector.

Inflation fell sharply to 8% by October, marking the first return to single-digit inflation in four years. This improvement was supported by prudent fiscal and monetary policies, enhanced food supply, and relative exchange rate stability. Interest rates also began to ease, with the Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) declining to 21.5% and the Ghana Reference Rate (GRR) dropping to 17.93% by November. Treasury bill rates fell significantly—from around 25% to 10.6% by October.

Public debt showed meaningful improvement, hovering around 45%, aided by ongoing restructuring efforts, cedi appreciation, and reduced reliance on external borrowing. The IMF-supported programme continues to serve as a strong policy anchor, with notable progress on structural benchmarks and renewed access to programme financing.



Ghana's 2026 budget

The Government of Ghana (GoG) has signalled a clear commitment to consolidating macroeconomic stability while pursuing transformative interventions across key sectors. The budget aims at decisive shifts from recovery to transformation; resilience to productivity; and from stability to jobs.

The 2026 Budget outlines bold initiatives including:

- i. VAT reforms and review/consolidation of other tax laws
 - ii. The Agricultural Transformation Programme,
 - iii. The Big Push infrastructure agenda
 - iv. 24-Hour Economy and Accelerated Export Development initiative
 - v. Integrated Oil Palm Development Policy, and major social and public safety interventions.
 - vi. Expenditure rationalisation which includes capping non-essential spending, refocusing earmarked funding on high impact job-creating
 - vii. projects and commitment control to contain build-up of arrears
- Establishment and operationalisation of a Value for Money Office (VfMO)

For the GoG to successfully implement these transformative measures, attention must be focused on a number of areas including the following critical ones:

A. Fiscal discipline

Fiscal discipline is vital for sustainable economic management. Ghana's best economic outcomes have often aligned with IMF programme periods, highlighting the need for accountability and prudent spending. This year's budget prioritises fiscal discipline, but success depends on effective implementation of expenditure controls, Value for Money initiatives, and strong commitment control to keep spending within approved limits and achieve stated goals. Ghana's ability to uphold the fiscal discipline achieved under the IMF programme after its exit is vital for lasting macroeconomic stability

B. Ensuring Effective Implementation of Revenue Measures

While certain tax reforms—such as the reduction in the effective VAT rate—may lead to short-term revenue declines, these measures are designed to simplify compliance, improve efficiency, and ultimately broaden the tax base. Enhanced compliance and streamlined processes are expected to drive revenue growth over time. Additionally, the budget introduces complementary strategies, including measures to curb leakages at the ports. Successful execution of these revenue-enhancing initiatives is critical to financing the programmes outlined in the budget without jeopardising overall economic stability.

C. Building Buffers and Driving Structural Transformation

Ghana's economy remains susceptible to external shocks. With current favourable conditions—particularly strong performance in gold and cocoa prices on international markets—this is an opportune moment to build adequate fiscal and foreign exchange buffers to safeguard against future volatility.

In the medium to long term, however, the priority must shift towards accelerating structural transformation. Diversifying the economy beyond traditional sectors will be critical to reducing vulnerability to global disruptions and positioning Ghana for sustainable, inclusive growth.

B. Ensuring Effective Implementation of Revenue Measures

While certain tax reforms—such as the reduction in the effective VAT rate—may lead to short-term revenue declines, these measures are designed to simplify compliance, improve efficiency, and ultimately broaden the tax base. Enhanced compliance and streamlined processes are expected to drive revenue growth over time. Additionally, the budget introduces complementary strategies, including measures to curb leakages at the ports. Successful execution of these revenue-enhancing initiatives is critical to financing the programmes outlined in the budget without jeopardising overall economic stability.

D. Ensuring Value for Money in Public Expenditure

As with previous budgets, the 2026 Budget introduces several initiatives that will require significant GoG spending. It is imperative that the Ministry of Finance and all relevant MDAs implement robust expenditure control systems and Value for Money (VfM) processes to minimise waste, enforce compliance with procurement standards, and guarantee optimal returns on every cedi spent.

Projects must undergo thorough professional evaluation and assessment before any financial commitments are made. Similarly, social intervention programmes should be carefully designed and reviewed to ensure effectiveness and sustainability.

The establishment of the Value for Money Office (VfMO) has the potential to be a transformative measure—provided it is structured and implemented effectively, rather than becoming an additional layer of bureaucracy within the public financial management framework.

We commend the GoG for ongoing initiatives such as validating expenditure arrears and conducting payroll audits to eliminate ghost names, which are critical steps toward achieving VfM and strengthening fiscal accountability.



Looking ahead

Ghana's economy is projected to grow by 4.9% in 2026, with GDP expected to reach GHS1.5 trillion. The services, industry and agriculture sectors will continue to serve as the pillars of growth, contributing 47%, 31% and 22% respectively. Inflation is expected to remain anchored within the medium-term target band of 8% $\pm$ 2, supported by enhanced food supply and strengthened policy coordination. The fiscal deficit is projected to narrow to 4.0%, while tax revenue is expected to account for most of the GoG financing, reaching GHS223.9 billion. These indicators reflect cautious optimism anchored in fiscal discipline, policy reforms, and improving investor sentiment.

As always, our goal at EY is to empower businesses, GoG, and communities to navigate this evolving landscape with clarity and confidence. Our multidisciplinary teams stand ready to support clients across tax advisory, strategy and transactions, risk and assurance, consulting, digital transformation, and sustainability. Whether through navigating the implications of new tax reforms, supporting sector-specific transformation programmes, or providing insights on emerging risks and opportunities, we remain committed to helping organisations unlock value and achieve long-term resilience.

Contents

01	Snapshot	4-14
02	Global Economic Performance and Outlook	15-18
03	The Economy – A Deep Dive	19-27
04	Proposed Key Sector Initiatives	28-34
05	Proposed Tax Measures	35-40
06	ESG Policy Measures and Interventions	41-45
07	Medium-Term Outlook	46-48
08	Our Partners and Abbreviations	49-51

“

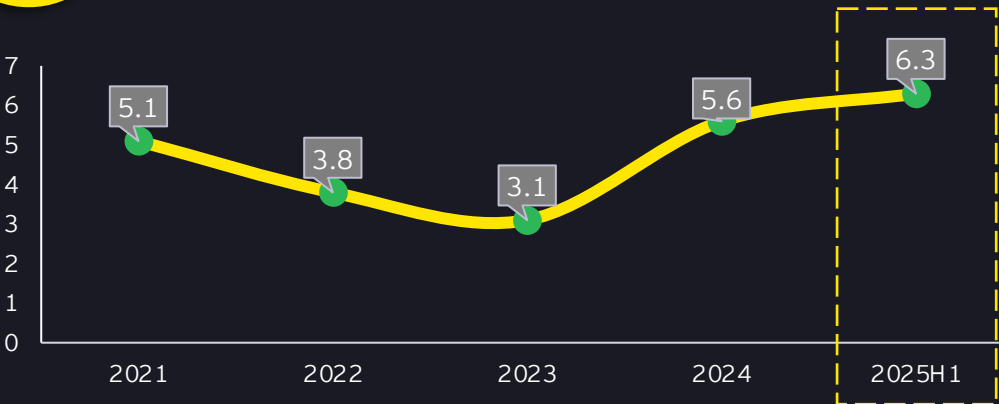
Resetting The
Economy For
Growth, Jobs
and Economic
Transformation

Snapshot

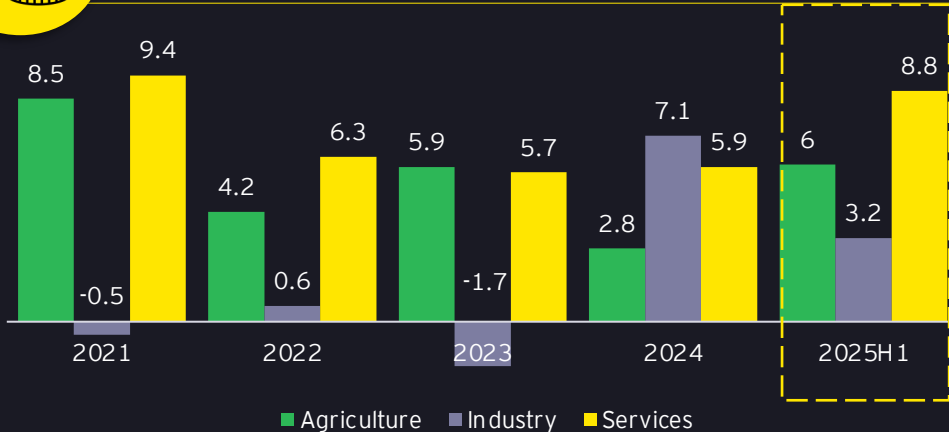
Snapshot | Ghana Economic Performance: Historical Trend



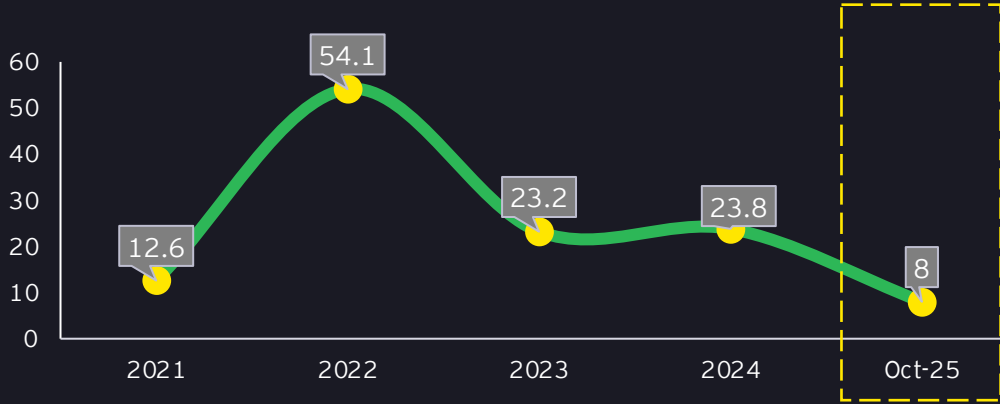
Real GDP Growth (%)



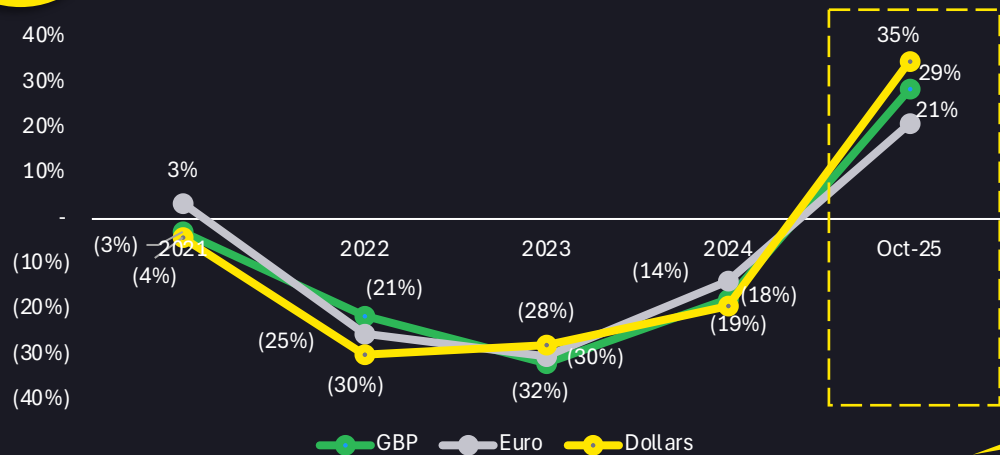
Sectoral GDP Growth Rates (%)



Inflation Rate (%)



Ghana Cedis (GHS) Performance (%)



Snapshot | 2025 Provisional Outturn - Commentary

Economic Performance			
Indicators	2025 Target	2025 Actual	Movement
Real GDP Growth Rate	4%	6.3%*	↑
Non-Oil GDP Growth Rate	4.8%	7.8%*	↑
Inflation (Year end)	11.9%	8%**	↓
Primary Balance (Commitment)	0.6%	1.6%***	↑
Fiscal Deficit	(3.2%)	(1.5%)	↓
Public Debt to GDP Ratio	N/A	45%	
Months of Import Cover (Gross International Reserves)	3	4.8	↑

Public Debt Statistics			
Details	2024 Actual (GHS'B)	2025 Oct Actual (GHS'B)	Movement
External debt	416.8	319.2	↓
Domestic debt	309.8	311.0	↑
Total debt	726.6	630.2	↓

* Half Year 2025 **Oct 2025
*** September 2025

● Negative impact on economy ● Positive impact on economy

Interest Rates		
 2025 Monetary Policy Rate 21.50% Sept 2025 (latest)	 2025 Ghana Reference Rate 17.93% Nov 2025	 2025 Treasury Bill Rate (91 Day Bill) 10.64% Nov (W1) 2025
 Commentary		

Economic growth

- Overall real GDP expanded by 6.3% in 2025 H1, up from 5.1% in 2024. This growth was primarily driven by the service and agricultural sector which expanded by 8.8% and 6.0% respectively.
- Also, Non-Oil GDP surged to 7.8%, highlighting a structural shift from dependence on extractive industries toward local enterprise and productivity.

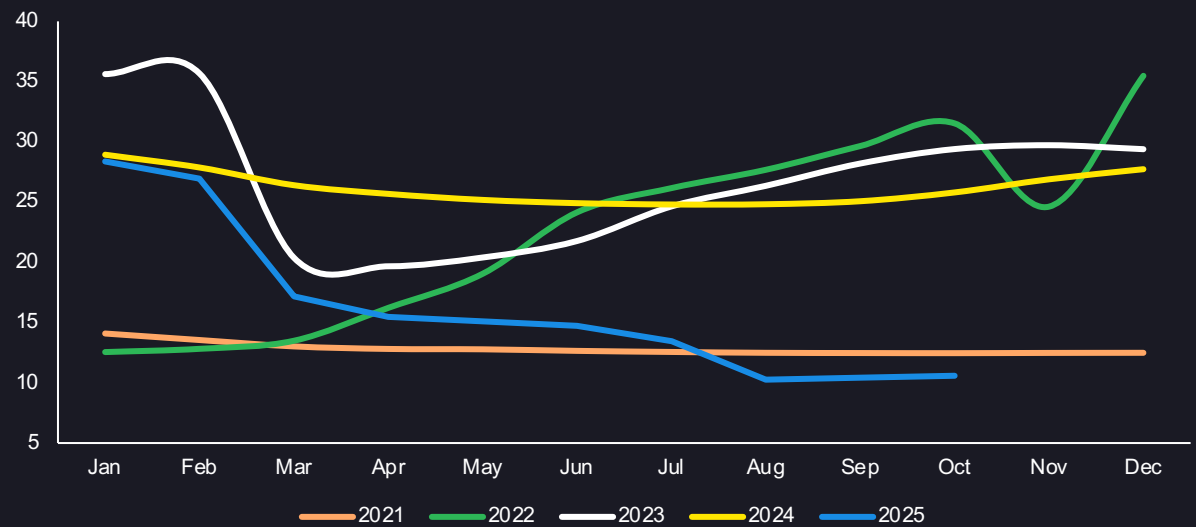
Public debt

- The rate of debt accumulation fell from a positive 19.1% in 2024 to a negative 13.3% by October 2025.
- External debt declined by 23.4% with domestic debt representing 49.4% of total public debt. This performance is driven by a number of factors including cedi appreciation, fiscal discipline and reduced external borrowing.

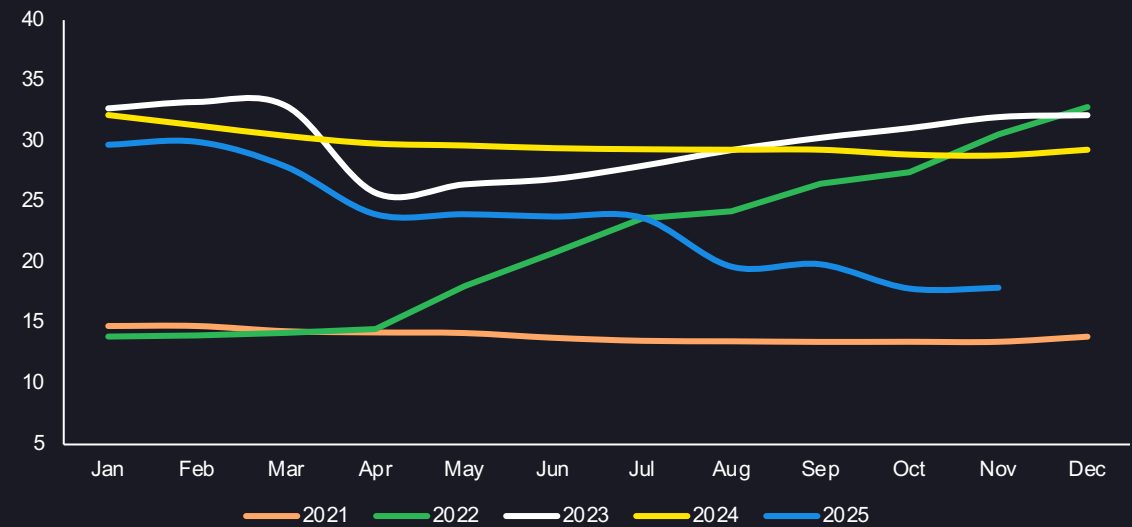
Source: 2026 Budget Statement, Ghana Statistical Service, Bank of Ghana, EY Analysis

Snapshot | 2025 Economic Performance: Interest Rates & Ratings

91- Day Treasury Bill Rates (%)



Ghana Reference Rates (%)



Latest Sovereign Credit Rating: Ghana

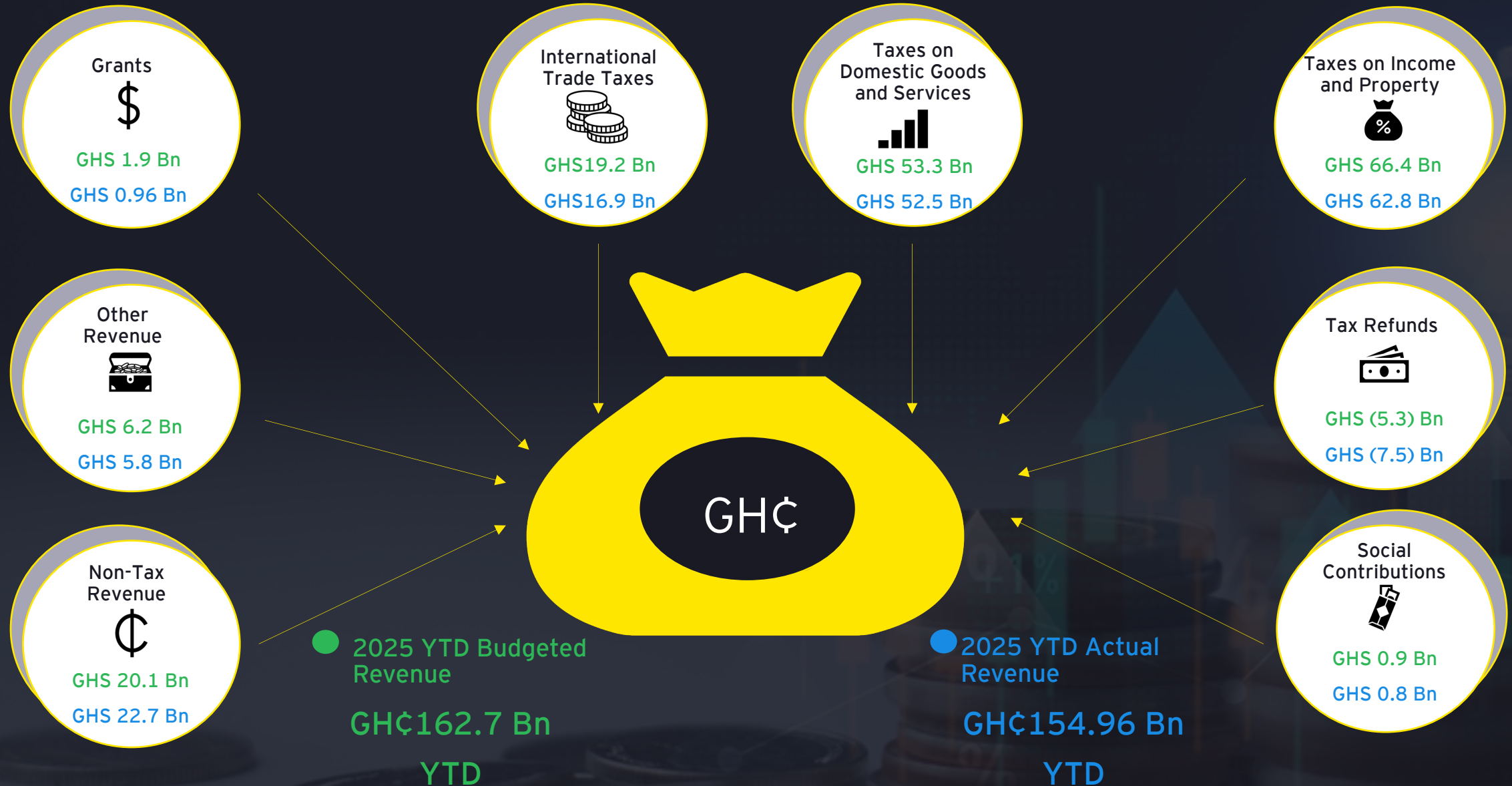
Rating Agency	Publication Date	Local Currency Rating	Foreign Currency Rating	Prior Local Currency Rating	Prior Foreign Rating
S&P Global Ratings	7 November 2025	B-	B	CCC+	SD
Moody's Investor Service	14 June 2025	Caa1	Caa2	Caa2	Caa2
Fitch Ratings	16 June 2025	B-	B-	CCC+	RD

Progress on the Domestic Debt Exchange Programme (DDEP)

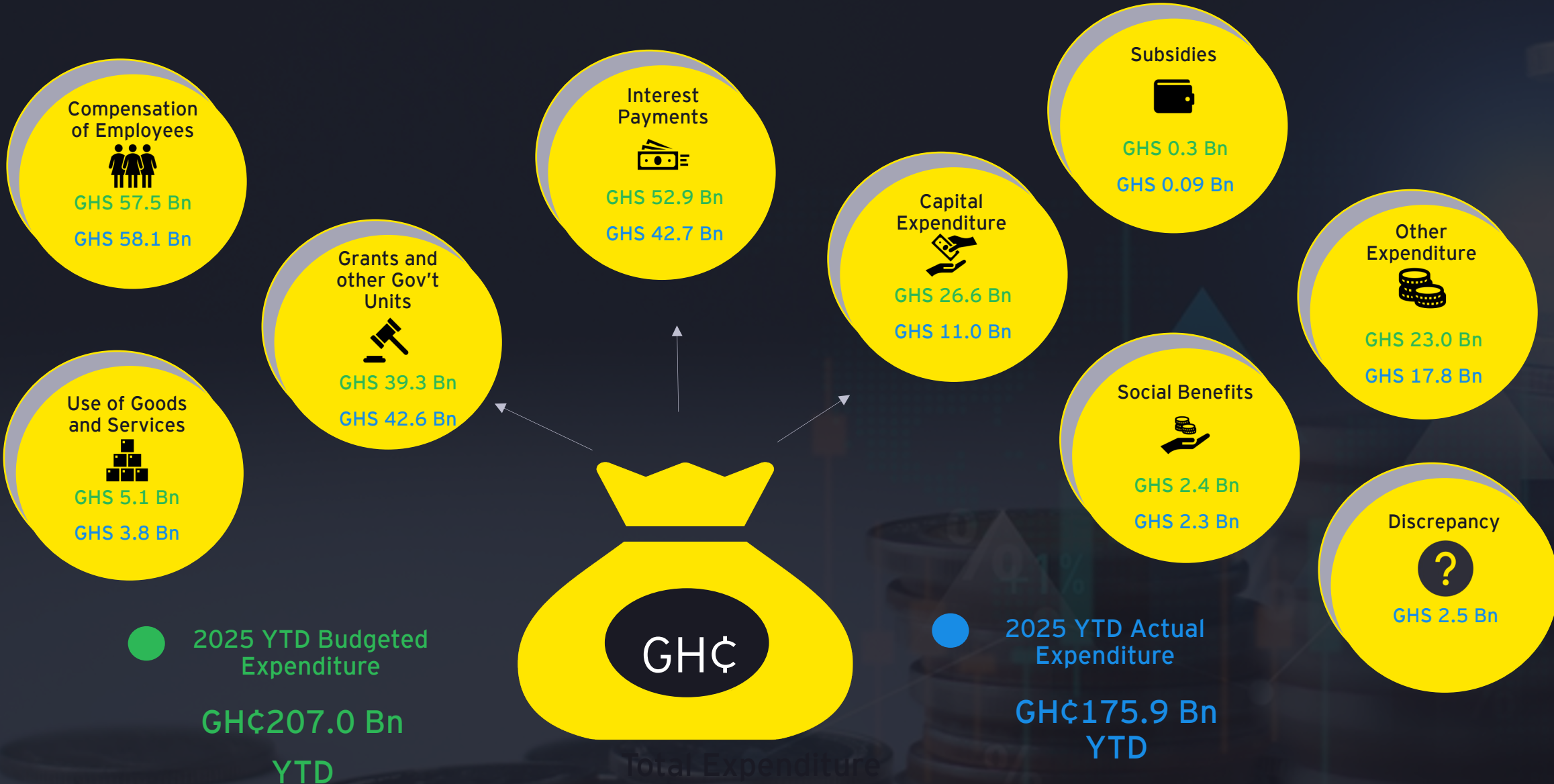
- Ghana's 2025 economic performance was marked by a sharp decline in domestic interest rates and upgrades in sovereign credit ratings.
- The government's limited access to the bond market, a direct consequence of the DDEP, led to a greater reliance on Treasury bill issuances for budget financing. The **increased demand for short-term treasuries** combined with improved macroeconomic performance, contributed to a significant decline in interest rates across all maturities at the short-end of the yield curve.
- The government fulfilled all coupon payments to DDEP bondholders (GH¢20.3 billion by October 2025) and remained current on non-tendered bondholder obligations.

Source: 2026 Budget Statement, Moody's Investor Service, S&P Global Ratings, Fitch Ratings, EY Analysis

Snapshot | YTD 2025: Revenue Sources (Q1 - Q3)



Snapshot | YTD 2025: Expenditure Sources (Q1- Q3)



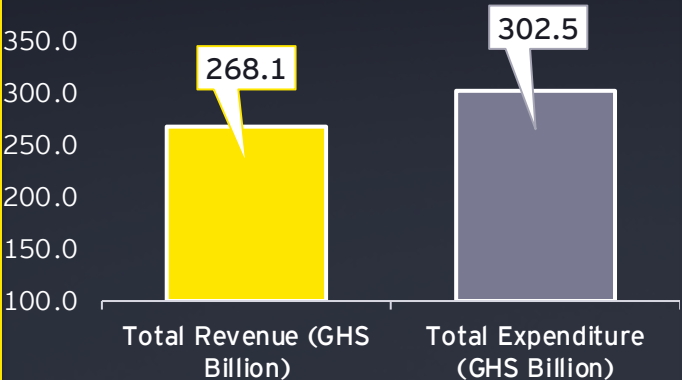
Snapshot | 2026 Provisional Budget: Highlights

GDP Growth
Target for
2026

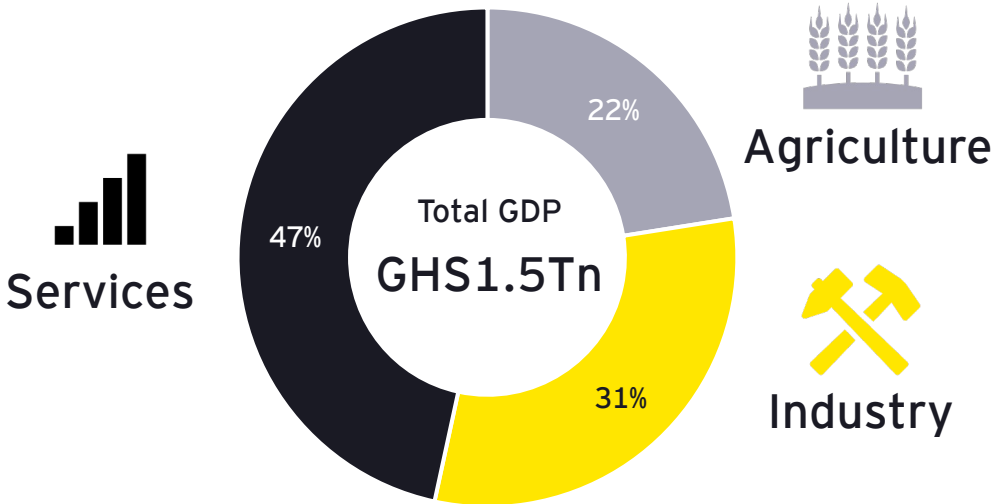


4.9%

Fiscal Targets for 2026



Sectoral Distribution of GDP 2026



Inflation Target
for 2026

8+/-2

Import Cover Target
for 2026



>3
Months

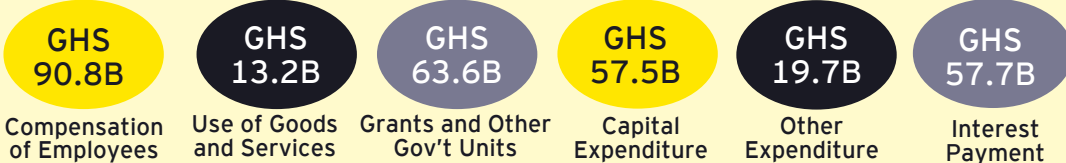
Expected
Spot Rate
(GHS/USD):
2026 End of
Period

11.27

Revenue Breakdown for 2026



Expenditure Breakdown for 2026



Fiscal Deficit (on
commitment basis)

2.2%
of GDP



Snapshot | Proposed Fiscal Measures - Tax Revenue



Several reforms promised in the 2025 Budget are set to be implemented in 2026, signalling concrete steps being taken to deliver the much-anticipated economic transformation.

Key areas of reform to be implemented as per 2026 budget

01

VAT reforms resulting in the reduction of effective VAT rate from 21.9% to 20%, removal of cascading effect of the levies, abolition of VAT on mineral exploration and reconnaissance, and raising of VAT registration threshold from GHS200,000 to GHS750,000

02

Review and consolidation of the Income Tax Act, 2015 (Act 896) to keep pace with global tax developments and the digital transformation of the economy

03

Review of the Customs Act, 2015 (Act 891) to align with emerging international standards in trade facilitation, digitalisation and border efficiency

04

Review of Excise Duty Act, 2014 (Act 878) to expand excise regime to include plastics, sugary beverages and carbon-intensive products

05

Review of regulatory and fiscal matters in the upstream petroleum and mining sectors

06

Revenue Administration Reforms - the operationalisation of Independent Tax Appeals Board (ITAB), rollout of Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS) and the use of AI at the ports to increase revenue mobilisation from global trade

07

Deepening International Tax Cooperation on United Nations Framework Convention project

Pending 2025 budget reforms not reported in 2026 budget.

- ▶ Re-introduction of road tolls
- ▶ Reform of property rate collection
- ▶ New legal and regulatory regime for non-tax revenues
- ▶ Zero-rating of minimum wage



What does this mean for taxpayers?

Generally, the reform measures will help (i) reduce the tax burden on businesses and households; (ii) broaden the tax base; and (iii) ensure effective tax administration while providing reasonable assurance to government revenue

Snapshot | Proposed Fiscal Measures - Expenditure

The fiscal expenditure measures to be introduced by the Government of Ghana (GoG) as part of the 2026 budget statement include:

01

Budget Preparation and Implementation: Conduct a detailed review and audit of the budget preparation and implementation process to improve transparency, prevent arrears accumulation and ensure value for money.

02

GHANEPS-GIFMIS Integration: Fully roll out electronic procurement linked to GIFMIS to enhance real-time expenditure control.

03

Capping Non-Essential Expenditure: Contain recurrent spending by limiting foreign travel, workshops, and vehicle procurement.

04

Rationalisation of Earmarked Funds: Redirect earmarked funds to high-impact, job-creating sectors including roads, energy, agriculture, and education.

05

Authorisation Controls: No new projects to commence without approved budget or funding to prevent accumulation of arrears.

06

Prioritisation of Capital Investment: Focus capital expenditure on infrastructure and productive sectors under the Big Push and 24-Hour Economy programmes.

07

Payroll Validation and Cleanup: Sustain payroll audit exercises to remove ghost names and eliminate payroll fraud.

08

Implementation of Arrears and Commitments Audit Recommendations: Adopt EY and PwC audit recommendations to prevent accumulation of new arrears.

09

Implementation of the Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA): Strengthen fiscal discipline and accountability through the operationalisation of the FRA and stronger sanctions for non-compliance

10

Strengthen Social Protection Systems: Safeguard allocations to LEAP, NHIS, School Feeding, and Free SHS to foster inclusive growth and shared prosperity.

11

Ensuring Value for Money: Enforce sanctions under Sections 96 to 98 of the Public Financial Management (PFM) Act, particularly for breaches relating to arrears accumulation and non-compliance.

12

Quarterly Expenditure Reviews: Institutionalise quarterly expenditure reviews and real-time audit monitoring to prevent overspending and improve efficiency.

Snapshot | Summary of Key initiatives to Drive the Resetting for Growth, Jobs and Economic Transformation

01	Big Push
02	24-Hour Economy and Accelerated Export Development initiative
03	Ghana Gold Board
04	Integrated Oil Palm Development
05	Rural Electricity Acceleration and Urban Intensification Initiative
06	Oil Palm Development Finance
07	Value for Money Office (VfMO)



Agricultural Transformation Programme	08
Farmer Service Centres initiative	09
Digital Land Administration Reform	10
Gas-to-Power Transformation	11
Retooling of the Ghana Armed Forces	12
Ghana Medical Care Trust (MahamaCares) Fund for NCDs	13
Ghana Secondary Learning Improvement Programme (GSLIP)	14

Snapshot | EY Point of View: Key Themes & Strategic Signals



The 2026 Budget consolidates Ghana's stabilisation gains and signals a decisive shift toward broad-based economic transformation and job-creating growth.



Pillar 1: Macroeconomic Stabilisation Gaining Traction

- Inflation back to single digit, currency stability improving
- Fiscal consolidation continues; deficit narrowing



Pillar 2: Shift from Recovery to Transformation

- Big Push, 24-Hour Economy, Agricultural Transformation
- Clear pivot to productivity, jobs, and competitiveness



Pillar 3: Tax Reforms Supporting Ease of Doing Business

- Effective VAT reduction; simplified VAT via Fiscal Electronic Devices (FEDs)
- Higher VAT threshold; COVID-19 levy abolished
- Broad tax law overhaul



Pillar 4: Digitalisation as the Engine of Revenue Mobilisation

- ITAS, AI-driven customs, and stronger compliance systems
- Improved efficiency without imposing new major taxes



Pillar 5: Investment-Focused Expenditure rationalisation

- Scaled capital spending across infrastructure, agriculture, energy
- Greater emphasis on value-for-money and financial discipline

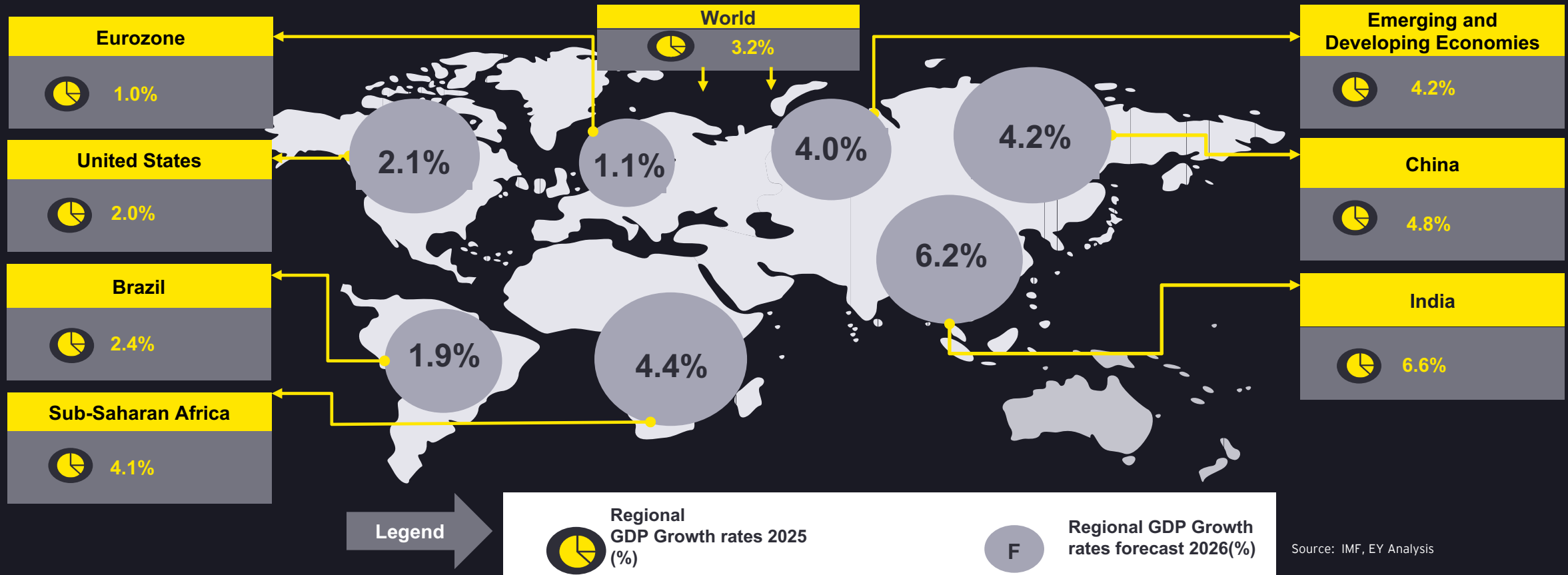
A budget that consolidates stabilisation gains while laying the foundations for structural transformation. **Effective execution and policy consistency will be crucial to ensure benefits are realised.**

Global Economic Performance & Outlook

Global Economy | Performance & Outlook (1/2)

Global Economic Performance

- Global economic growth is projected to be moderate, with the IMF forecasting a slowdown from 3.2% in 2025 to 3.1% in 2026.
- Growth in advanced economies including the United States is expected to remain steady at 1.5% in 2026, the same as in 2025. The United States is projected to achieve slightly higher growth, rising from 2.0% in 2025 to 2.1% in 2026, despite risks from tariffs, policy uncertainty, and geopolitical tensions. Meanwhile, the Euro Area and other advanced economies are likely to see only modest gains.
- Emerging markets are expected to experience a decrease in growth from 4.2% in 2025 to 4.1% in 2026, led by China (4.8%) and India (6.2%). Overall, the global outlook remains cautious, with risks tilted to the downside due to ongoing geopolitical tensions, tighter financial conditions, and the potential for renewed volatility in commodity and financial markets.



Commentary on Global Performance



Inflation

- Global headline inflation is projected to fall to 4.2% in 2025 and further to 3.5% in 2026, Inflation is expected to stabilise near 2.2% in advanced economies, while emerging markets will average about 4.7% due to currency and food price volatility.
- In Sub-Saharan Africa inflation is projected to decline from 13.1% in 2025 to 10.9% in 2026, driven by tighter monetary policies, improved food availability, and greater exchange rate stability.



Commodity Prices

- Cocoa prices surged to an average of US\$7,800 per metric tonne in 2025, up from US\$5,900 in 2024, however prices are projected to stabilise in 2026 as supply conditions improve.
- In 2025, Brent crude is forecast to average US\$68 per barrel, down from US\$79 in 2024, due to rising inventories and weaker demand. Gold is expected to stay high at US\$2,350 per ounce, supported by geopolitical tensions and central bank buying.



Global Policy Rate

- Policy rates in advanced economies expected to maintain rates near neutral around 3.0-3.5% after a series of cuts, prioritising growth amid labour market softness and moderating inflation.
- Policy normalisation is expected by late 2026, but divergence will remain between advanced economies and emerging markets.



Global Trade

- Global trade volume growth is anticipated to rise to 2.4%, marking a notable improvement from previous estimates. Conversely, for 2026, the organisation has downgraded its earlier forecast of 1.8% growth to a disappointing 0.5%.
- Global merchandise trade recorded strong growth, driven in part by a surge in goods shipments to the United States.

Global Economy | Geopolitical Risk & Other Global Disruptions



US Foreign Policy

- The Trump administration has issued a sweeping executive order imposing significant tariffs on imports from Mexico, Canada, and China. Effective March 12, 2025, the order mandates 10% tariff on all imports from China, 25% tariff on imports from Mexico, and 25% tariff specifically on steel and aluminium imports from Canada.
- In a separate move, the U.S. government announced the near total elimination of foreign aid funding through USAID, resulting in the termination of approximately 5,800 projects worldwide. These cuts affect critical programmes for HIV treatment, tuberculosis, malaria, Ebola response, and nutritional support, threatening global health initiatives.
- President Trump signed an executive order affirming a strict biological definition of sex, declaring that women are biologically female and men are biologically male, and recognising only two immutable sexes. Another order dismantled all federal programmes aimed at promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the workforce,



Climate-related Disasters

- Climate-related disasters such as droughts in Africa and South America and hurricanes in the Caribbean, disrupted agricultural production and trade, leading to global food price spikes and higher inflation. These events had a big impact on global agriculture, leading to lower harvests of important crops like maize, soybeans, and coffee, and causing damage to farms and infrastructure in the affected areas. They highlight the vulnerability of global supply chains to extreme weather and underscored the need for greater investment in climate resilience and food security.
- As a result, there were significant supply shortages, which drove up food prices and led to food inflation, especially in developing countries. Many governments found themselves facing higher import costs and had to take emergency measures to ensure food supplies remained stable. Overall, these climate shocks had major impact on rising global inflation and economic instability, highlighting just how vulnerable our food systems are and the urgent need for more investment in climate resilience.



Continuous Technological Cold War

- As of October 2025, the intensifying competition between the US and China in the technology sector reached a pivotal moment, particularly within the semiconductor industry. This rivalry is reshaping the global supply chains and driving a "decoupling" into two separate technological spheres.
- Recent actions, including stricter US export restrictions and China's determined efforts to achieve self-reliance, indicate a significant and immediate transition towards a more localised and less efficient global chip market. This shift highlights the increasing fragmentation of the semiconductor ecosystem, elevating these crucial components to the status of strategic assets essential for national security and leadership in artificial intelligence, thus defining a new era reminiscent of an "AI Cold War."

The Economy - a Deep Dive

Macroeconomic Performance | Highlights

Real GDP Growth Rate (%)	2025 H1 Outturn	6.3
	2025 Target	4.8
	2026 Target	4.8

Non-Oil GDP Growth Rate (%)	2025 H1 Outturn*	7.8
	2025 Target	5.3
	2026 Target	4.9

Inflation	2025 October Outturn	8
	2025 Target	8.0
	2026 Target	8.0

Fiscal Deficit (% of GDP)	2025 Q3 Outturn	1.5
	2025 Target	1.8
	2026 Target	2.2

Primary Balance (% of GDP)	2025 Q3 Outturn	1.6
	2025 Target	1.5
	2026 Target	1.5

Import Cover (number of months cover)	2025 Q3 Outturn	4.8
	2025 Target	5
	2026 Target	3

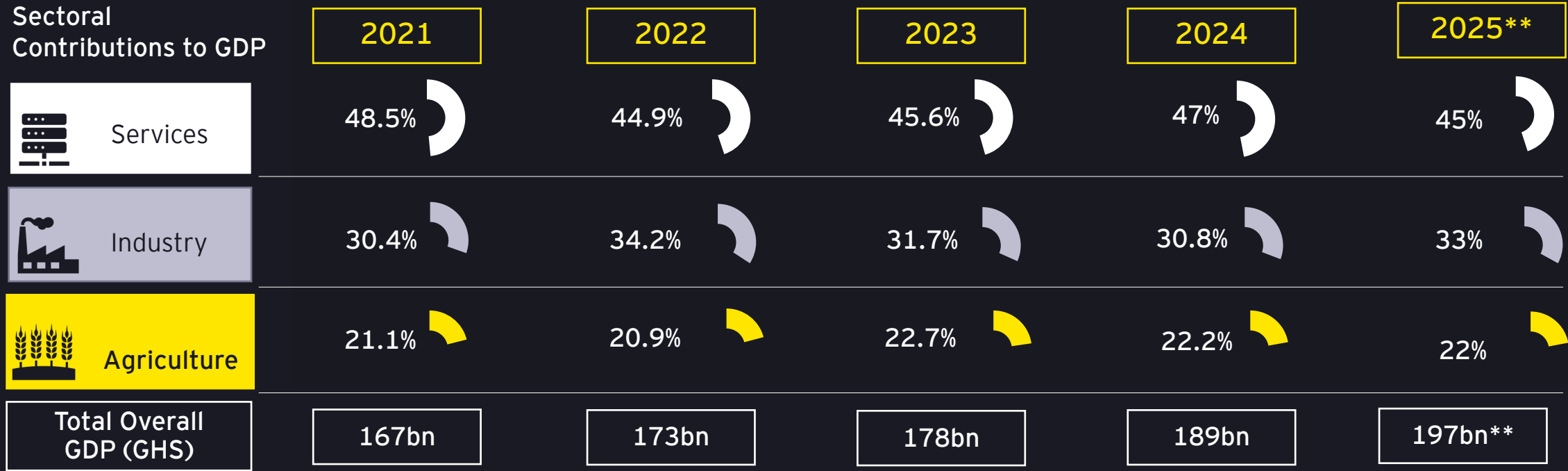
* Relative to 2024 H1

- Ghana's macroeconomy continues to demonstrate both resilience and ongoing challenges. 2025 H1 GDP growth report shows the potential to surpassing projection.
- Inflation, which had been elevated in previous years, declined sharply to single digits by October 2025, standing at 8%.
- The 2026 Budget builds on previous achievements by prioritising sustained fiscal consolidation, further deficit reduction, and measures to maintain inflation at optimal levels. In addition, the government intends to strategically invest in key sectors to promote inclusive growth and create sustainable employment opportunities.

Macroeconomic Performance | Sectoral Performance Analysis

Sectoral Growth (%)

	2021			2022			2023			2024				2025	
Sector	Budget	Actual	Var	Budget	Actual	Var	Budget	Actual	Var	Budget	Actual	Var	Budget	YTD Actual	Var
Agriculture	4.0	8.5	4.5	5.3	4.2	(1.1)	3.2	5.9	2.7	3.0	2.8	(0.2)	3.8	6.0*	N/A
Industry	4.8	(0.5)	(5.3)	6.3	0.6	(5.7)	(1.2)	(1.7)	(0.5)	3.7	7.1	3.4	3.6	3.2*	N/A
Services	5.6	9.4	3.8	5.6	6.3	0.7	4.6	5.7	1.1	1.9	5.9	4.0	6.6	8.8*	N/A

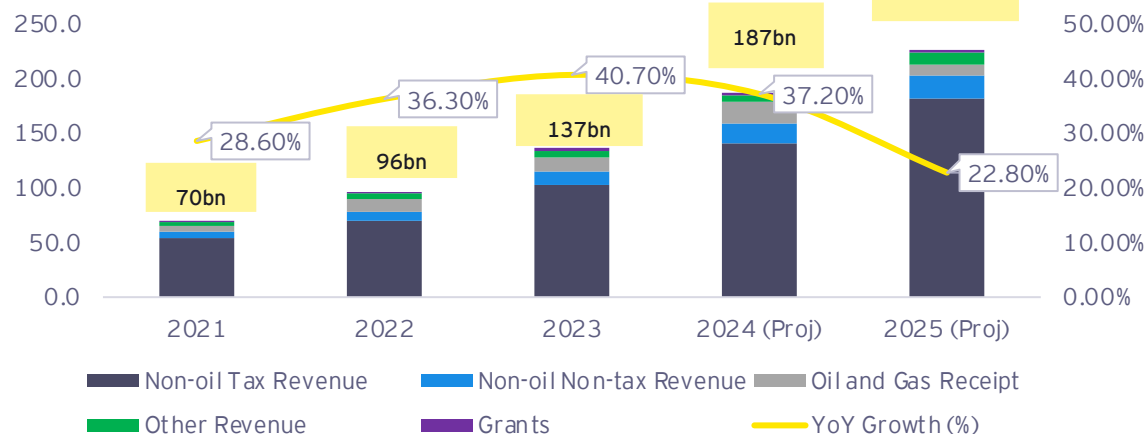


* 2025H1

** Projection

Fiscal and Monetary Development | Revenue Analysis

Historical Revenue Trends



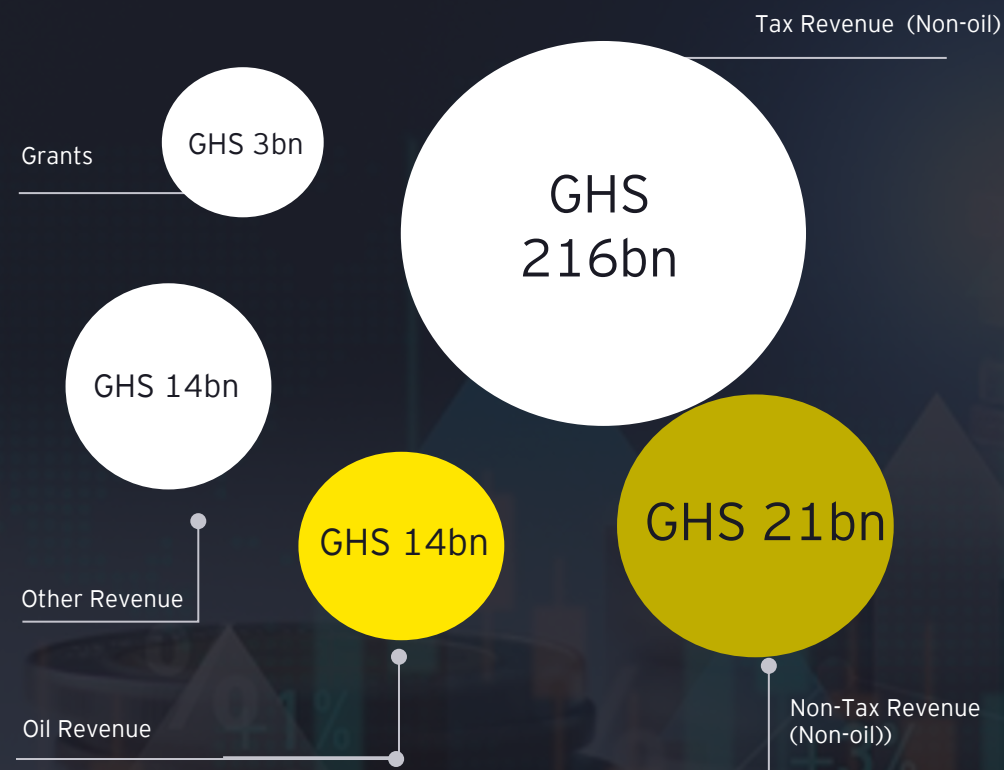
Key Insights

- For 2025, total revenue and grants projected amounts to GHS 226.5billion, which is 15.8% of GDP. This figure is 1.5% below the revised budget of GHS 229.9billion for the year.
- Non-oil tax revenue remains the backbone of the country's fiscal capacity accounting for 80% of total projected domestic revenue. The high non-oil tax revenue is largely as a result of the effectiveness of recent administrative reforms during the period.
- Tax on Income and Property is expected to trail the budgeted amount by 4.1 % largely due to shortfalls across all major revenue categories. Taxes on Domestic Goods and Services on the other hand are expected to exceed expectations, reflecting the anticipated increase in revenue expected from petroleum tax and excise duty for 2025.

Outlook

- Looking ahead to 2026, revenue projections are cautiously optimistic, with total collections forecast to rise to GHS 268.1 billion.

2026 Revenue Outlook (GHS)

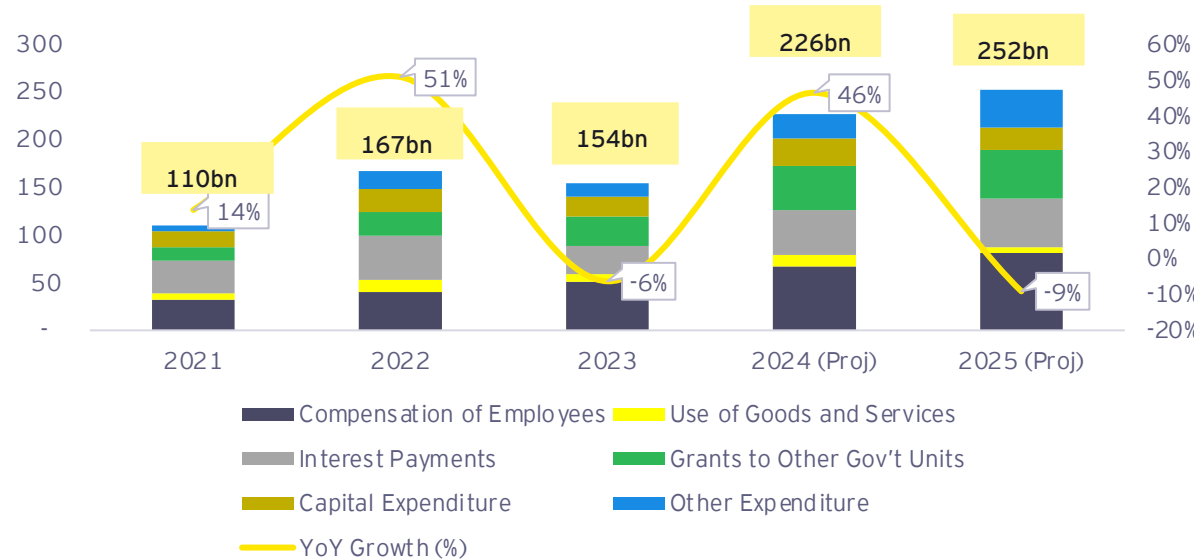


EY Point of View

The realisation of the 2026 GoG projected Revenue will require effective implementation of the VAT reforms and digital tax systems, enhancement of domestic revenue mobilisation efforts and expansion of the tax base through the formalisation of the informal sector.

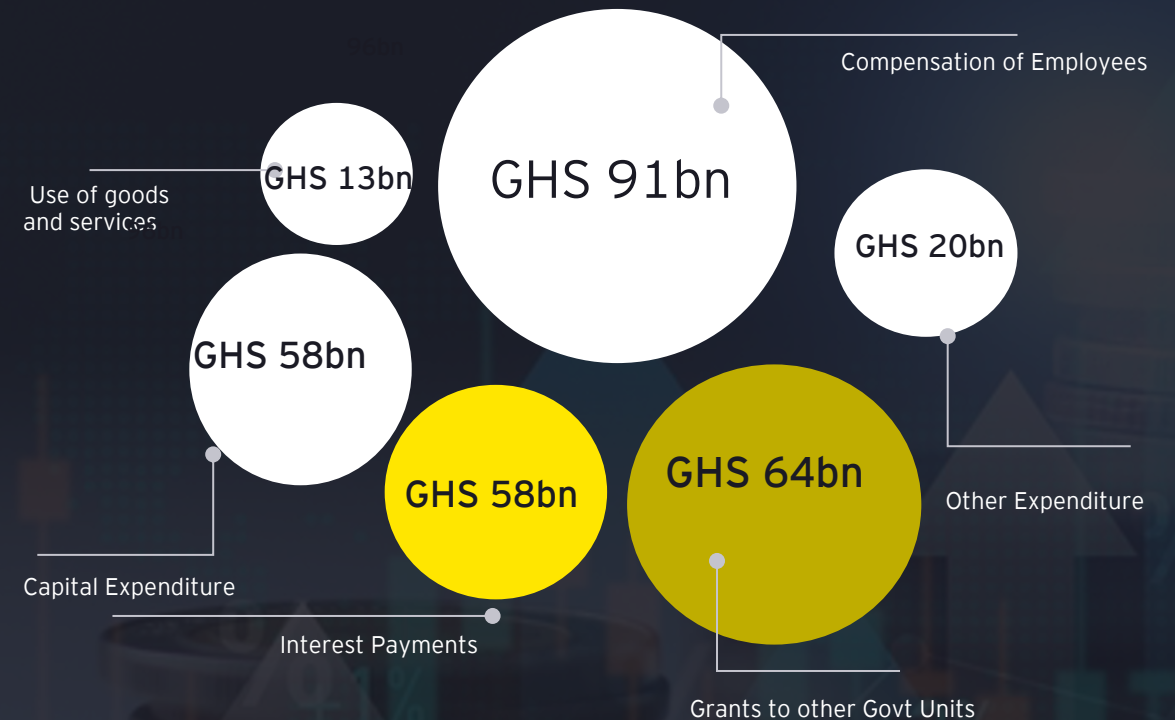
Fiscal and Monetary Development | Expenditure Analysis

Historical Expenditure Trends



- GoG expenditure for all expense line items are expected to exceed the budgeted amounts except for Goods and Services, Grants, Interest Payments and Capital expenditure.
- Ghana's total expenditure (excluding discrepancy and arrears) stood at GHS 252 billion in 2025. The total expenditure (excluding discrepancy and arrears) for the year 2024 was GHS226 billion with 2023 being GHS155 billion.
- The fall in expenditure in 2025 can be attributed to decrease in costs around the following:
 - Goods and Services
 - Interest Payments
 - Capital Expenditure
 - Other Expenditure

2026 Expenditure Outlook (GHSbn)

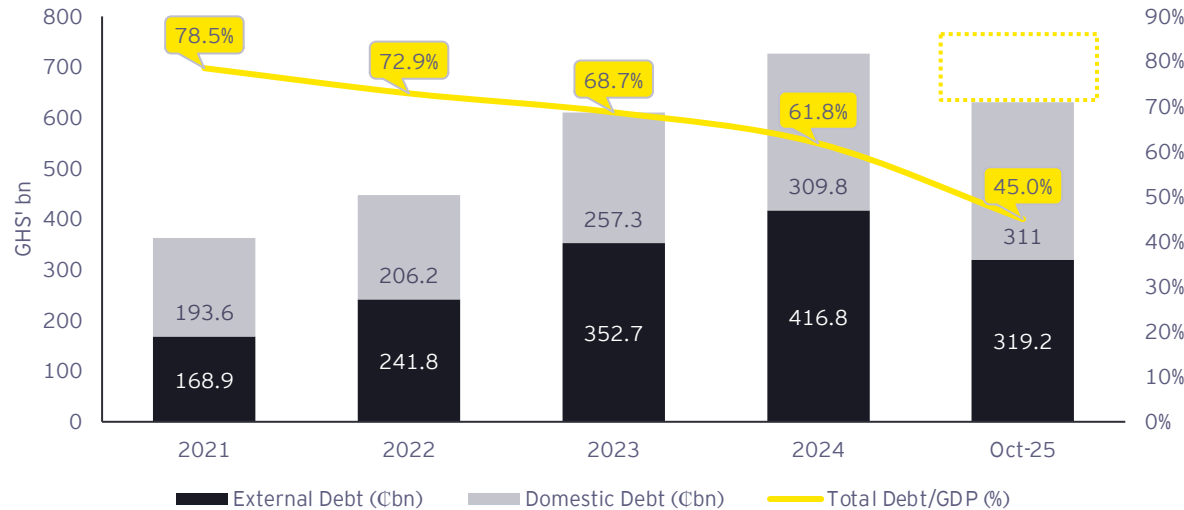


EY Point of View

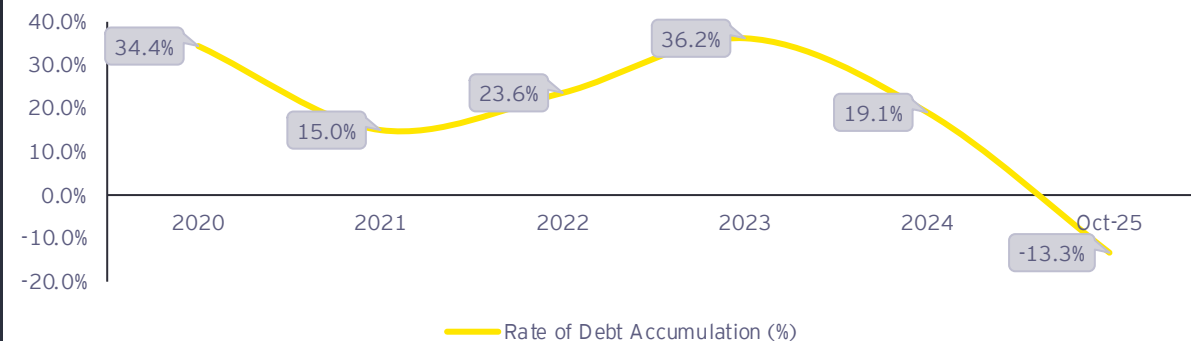
To stay within the expenditure target projected for 2026, GoG must be fiscally disciplined to ensure that the budgetary limits are not exceeded especially post the International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme in May 2026.

Fiscal and Monetary Development | Public Debt & Debt Markets (1/2)

Public Debt



Rate of Debt Accumulation (%)



Actions taken by Government

Government has made meaningful strides to address debt levels, signaling commitment to stabilisation.

External debt

External debt declined by GH¢97.6 billion (23.4%), from GH¢416.8 billion in 2024 to GH¢319.2 billion in October 2025, driven by the cedi's appreciation against major currencies, fiscal discipline, and reduced external borrowing.

Domestic debt

Domestic debt, on the other hand, rose only modestly. It now constitutes 49.4% of total public debt, up from 42.6 percent.

Debt restructuring

On October 13, 2025, the Memorandum of Understanding with Official Bilateral Creditors became effective, following the completion of all conditions. On the commercial debt front, Government has reached Agreements in Principle (AIPs) with several major lenders.

EY Point of View

- Debt sustainability is improving, supported by a sharp decline in external debt and progress on restructuring.
- Rising domestic debt eases FX risk but heightens pressure on local liquidity and interest rates.
- Maintaining fiscal discipline and completing restructuring remain critical to sustaining the downward debt path.

Post-DDEP Report



Domestic Debt Market

- As of October 2025, total issuance reached GH¢234.0 billion, with GH¢229.6 billion derived from Treasury bills.
- The Government has successfully fulfilled all coupon payments under the Domestic Debt Exchange Programme, totalling GH¢20.3 billion, comprised of GH¢16.8 billion in cash and GH¢3.6 billion in kind

- The banking sector has shown recovery despite the heavy effect of the DDEP. Profit before tax increased by 40.9% to GH¢16.8 billion as of September 2025, with profit after tax rising by 42.1% to GH¢11.0 billion.
- The Non-Performing Loan (NPL) ratio improved to 20.4% in September 2025, down from 22.8% in 2024.



Fall in Borrowing Costs

Financial Sector Impact



- The decline in yields has reduced government financing costs, enhanced private sector access to credit, and generated fiscal space for investment;
 - 91-day Treasury Bill rate dropped from 28.04% (Dec 2024) to 10.67% (Oct 2025)
 - 182-day rate fell from 28.68% to 12.47%
 - 364-day rate dropped from 30.07% to 12.88%.

Eurobonds, External Financing and Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy (MTDS)

Eurobonds

- YTD, the prices of Eurobonds have increased by 17 percent, while yields have decreased by more than 300 basis points, indicating growing investor confidence in Ghana's economic recovery.
- External interest payments totalled GH¢5.9 billion, falling short of the GH¢7.3 billion target, as the Government benefited from lower Eurobond debt servicing and concessional refinancing arrangement

Re-entry into the Domestic Capital Market

- Post the DDEP restrictions, the government plans to strategically re-enter the domestic capital market to restructure and extend maturities, rather than for expansionary borrowing. This is targeted at reducing rollover risks and create fiscal space for productive investment.
- The government is expected to employ tools such as buybacks, bond exchanges, and targeted cash operations to enhance the maturity profile of domestic debt and promote market stability.

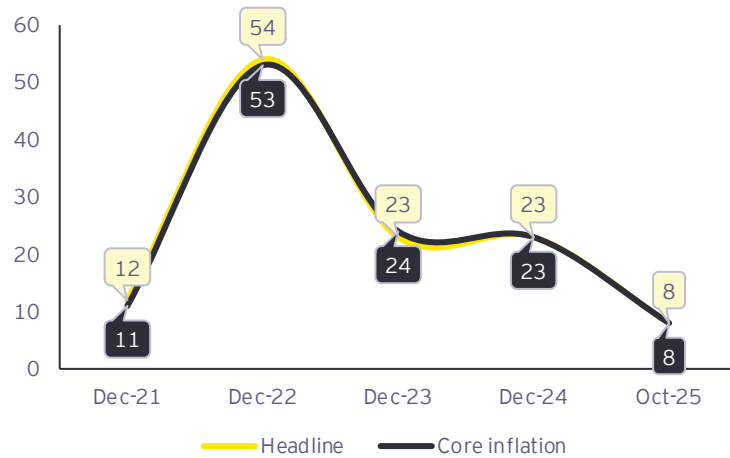
Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy (MTDS)

The government intends to restart issuance of benchmark bonds in 2026 to revive the domestic bond market. The strategy focuses on:

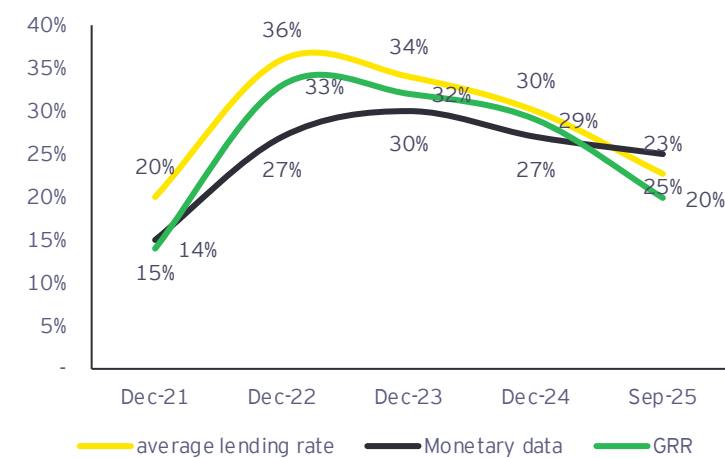
- Reducing refinancing and interest rate risks.
- Lowering debt servicing costs.
- Deepening the domestic debt market.
- Improving transparency and accountability.

Fiscal and Monetary Development | Monetary Policy and Currency Performance

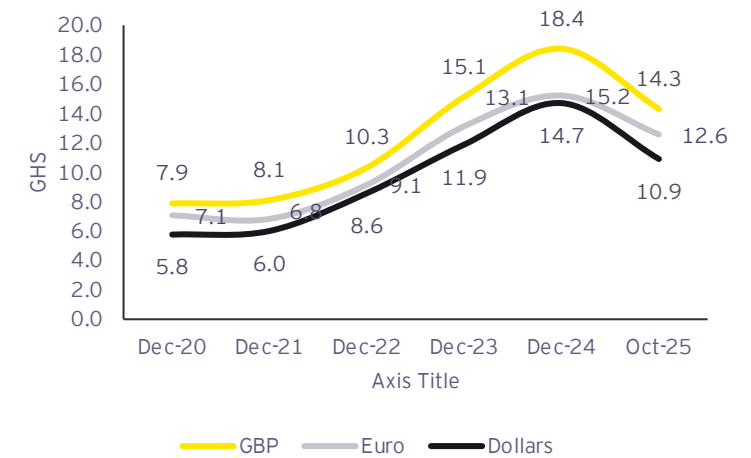
Inflation Rates (%)



Interest Rates (%)



Exchange rates



- Ghana achieved single digit inflation for the first time in four years, dropping from 23.8% in December 2024 to 8% by October 2025, driven by prudent fiscal and monetary policies, currency stability, improved harvests, and lower transport and import costs
- Food and non-food inflation declined significantly, supported by investments in agriculture and logistics. Lending rates fell from 30.6% to 22.7%, widening interest spreads and boosting bank profitability, while the Ghana Reference Rate dropped from 29.3% to 19.9%, signalling improved borrowing conditions."

EY Point of View

- Disinflation momentum is strong, supported by coordinated fiscal-monetary policy and improved food supply, reinforcing price stability.
- Easing interest rates signal improving liquidity and borrowing conditions, though sustained policy consistency will be key to anchoring the downward trend.
- Exchange rate pressures have moderated, but underlying vulnerabilities remain, requiring continued FX reserve build-up and disciplined macro management.

IMF Programme Updates

Since 2023, the country has been navigating a complex economic landscape under the guidance of an International Monetary Fund (IMF) Programme. The initiative is to restore macroeconomic stability, manage public debt and lay the ground for sustainable growth. The IMF-supported Programme is back on track following decisive corrective measures which has unlocked an immediate US\$367 million to support reserves and the budget. Continued collaboration with the IMF and a focus on achieving key performance targets are essential for stabilising the economy and ensuring sustainable growth in the future.

Journey So Far



EY Point of View

- The IMF programme remains a strong policy anchor, with steady progress on reviews helping to restore confidence and unlock critical budget and reserve support.
- Meeting structural benchmarks has strengthened macro stability, but consistency in implementation will be key to sustaining momentum.
- Timely completion of upcoming reviews is essential to preserve investor confidence and ensure continued access to programme financing.
- Ghana's ability to uphold the fiscal discipline achieved under the IMF programme after its exit is vital for lasting macroeconomic stability

Proposed Key Sector Initiatives

Key Sector Initiatives

Highlights of the budget with emphasis on the implications for key sectors has been provided below as follows:

GHS 67,815,432,888
(19% of total planned expenditure)

GHS 11,961,956,914
(3.3% of total planned expenditure)

GHS 15,554,012,458
(4.4% of total planned expenditure)



GHS 9,594,527,071
(2.7% of total planned expenditure)

GHS 29,182,798,170
(8.2% of total planned expenditure)

GHS 222,996,911,579.34
(62.4% of total planned expenditure)

“The Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework (MTNDPF 2022-2025) continues to guide national planning, with implementation driven through the plans of sector Ministries, Departments, Agencies (MDAs), and District Assemblies. The 2026 Budget marks a decisive shift from recovery to transformation, introducing bold sectoral Programmes and projects under the Reset Agenda to accelerate economic growth, create jobs, and strengthen social inclusion. These initiatives are anchored on three strategic priorities: consolidating macroeconomic stability, accelerating economic transformation and job creation, and strengthening security and social sectors for inclusive growth.”

Key Sector Initiatives

Social Sector

¢67.8bn The main focus of the Social Sector is as follows: Education, Labour, Jobs and Employment, Sports and Recreation, Health, Gender, Children and Social Protection, Youth Development and Empowerment

	Expand free primary healthcare alongside improved digital claims, and licensing of 232 mortuaries.		Establishment of a Film fund and Creative Arts fund to revive the film industry and other creative sectors.
	Enforce a nationwide sanitation and community participation to address urban waste.		GSLIP (2026-2027) will end the double-track system by expanding Category A schools with new classrooms and dormitories, easing congestion, and upgrading 10 Category B schools to Category A.
	District Assembly Common Fund for disability to increase from 3 to 5 percent.		US\$60 million for the construction of a science and technology university at Damongo and a modern market at Aflao.
	The Ghana Medical Trust Fund (MahamaCares) to guarantee sustainable financing in the treatment of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and specialised medical services.		GoG to rehabilitate the National Theatre in Accra and commence site acquisition and design of a second national theatre in Kumasi.

EY Point of View

Stakeholders in the social sector should anticipate a period of accelerated reform as the GoG rolls out initiatives such as expanded free primary healthcare, the Ghana Medical Trust Fund for NCDs, increased disability funding, and targeted investments in education and creative arts. These measures are expected to enhance access to essential services, promote inclusion, and improve overall wellbeing. For communities and service providers, these initiatives signal a supportive environment for vulnerable groups and a renewed focus on human capital development, with the potential to drive long term social resilience and inclusive growth.

Key Sector Initiatives

Administration Sector

¢15.6bn

The main focus of the Administration Sector is to ensure effective democratic governance, public financial management, local governance administration, public accountability, public policy management, as well as good international relations, development communications, and civil society engagement.



The government by the 10th DPAT cycle will add a new tracker to align MMDCE performance with the President's Project Delivery Unit for unified local accountability.



GoG to initiate Asset Traceability by Office of Administrator-General with the intent of achieving 82% stock-taking of public assets through Asset Traceability to improve governance and transparency.



The GoG through the training of MMDCEs & Local Government Leadership Development are to train MMDCEs in public administration and finance to strengthen local governance.



GoG will roll out Digital Land Administration Reform to enable online land registration, verification, and transfer through Digital Land Administration Reform ending missing files and corruption.



GSS will launch Ghana's first Tourism Satellite Account to capture the full economic contribution of the tourism industry.



GoG plans to establish a Value for Money Office (VfMO) to strengthen accountability and efficiency in public spending. The VfMO will be responsible for verifying that major projects are economically justified and technically sound, ensuring that prices align with national cost benchmarks, and requiring measurable results MDAs and MMDAs

EY Point of View

Stakeholders in public administration should prepare for a wave of governance reforms as the GoG introduces initiatives such as digital land administration, asset traceability, and enhanced local government training. These measures are expected to strengthen transparency, accountability, and efficiency in public administration. This will require adaptation to new digital systems and enhanced performance monitoring to ensure the transition does not disrupt business. For local authorities and public service entities, these reforms signal a shift towards integrated project delivery, improved resource management, and stronger oversight, ultimately fostering more effective governance and better public service delivery.

The introduction of the VfMO will be a game changer if designed and implemented well. Government must guard against this initiative becoming an administrative bureaucracy but rather an effective expenditure control and accountability mechanism within our PFM space.

Key Sector Initiatives

Economic Sector

¢12.0bn The focus of the Economic Sector is to ensure a strong and resilient economy; sustainable and reliable energy supply, green transition; industrial transformation and agribusiness; improved science and technology; private sector development, agriculture and rural development; fisheries and aquaculture; and tourism, culture and creative arts.



Agricultural Transformation Programme & 24-Hour Economy aim to accelerate industrialisation, boost exports, and drive inclusive growth through integrated value chains by the creation of agro-industrial zones operating round-the-clock for production, processing, and distribution.



National Integrated Oil Palm Development Policy aims to cultivate 100,000 hectares, create 250,000+ jobs, achieve self-sufficiency and export competitiveness by expansion of plantations, refining capacity, land-bank acquisition and climate-compliant land governance.



Farm Banks & Farmers' Service Centres aims to provide 4,000+ agricultural machinery to 50 districts, modernise farming and support food security by providing smallholders with finance, inputs, irrigation, and extension services.



The fisheries workforce is being strengthened through education and innovation. The Ghana National Fisheries College at Anomabo will be fully operationalised to commence academic activities in the 2026-2027 academic year. The College will serve as a national hub for training, research, and technology transfer to enhance sustainable fisheries management and aquaculture production.



Modern Garment Factories Initiative aims to establish large-scale garment facilities generating 27,000 jobs to support export diversification and youth employment.



US\$2 billion framework agreement for the Jubilee and TEN fields to drill 20 new wells, and a US\$1.5 billion Memorandum of Intent with Offshore Cape Three Points partners to expand operations.



Ghana Green Finance Taxonomy Projects & Climate Insurance Schemes aim to channel investments into green projects and protect vulnerable populations from climate shocks by expanding sovereign drought insurance and parametric flood insurance.

EY Point of View

GoG's economic sector reforms are expected to accelerate industrialisation, boost exports, and drive inclusive growth by strengthening value chains and promoting sustainable practices. These changes may require adaptation to new financing models, technologies, and regulatory frameworks, and signal a shift towards a more resilient and diversified economy. Overall, the reforms are designed to improve productivity, expand opportunities in agribusiness and manufacturing, and enhance support for green finance and climate resilience.

Like many of the other initiatives, effective implementation is key. Expenditure control, proper procurement processes with full VFM considerations would be critical to achieving success.

Source: The 2026 Budget Statement and Economic Policy of Government

Key Sector Initiatives

Infrastructure Sector

¢9.6bn

The focus of the Infrastructure Sector is to improve the country's infrastructure to support economic growth, enhance livelihoods, and increase access to basic services. It cuts across works and housing; roads and highways; communications, digital technology and innovations; and transportation



World Bank Funded 1,000 kilometres Agricultural Enclave Roads Programme.



Build a 1,200 MW state-owned thermal plant to use 150 MMscf/day of gas from OCTP and GPP 2.



Build major water treatment plants in Northern and Savannah Regions to double capacity and provide safe water for 1 million people.



Construction Accra-Kumasi Expressway Project, Ghana's first modern six-lane bi-directional Class A Expressway.



Construction of 3 stadia in 2026 and 5 by 2028 to promote youth development and sports tourism.



The construction of Adawso-Ekye Amanfrom Bridge, and related road networks in the Afram Plains



STRIDE Diplomatic Property Infrastructure Programme will shift from renting to owning diplomatic buildings abroad to cut costs and improve efficiency.



Construction of six new regional hospitals for the six newly created regions, beginning with three hospitals in 2026 and two district hospitals at Bole and Shama.

EY Point of View

GoG reiterated its commitment to infrastructure investment as outlined in the initiatives earmarked in this budget. These projects are expected to stimulate economic growth by facilitating trade, enhancing regional connectivity, and improving the efficiency of transportation and logistics networks. Investments in water and health infrastructure will strengthen public health and productivity, while new stadia construction and energy projects aim to promote sports tourism and ensure a reliable energy supply. For the private sector, these developments create opportunities to engage in large-scale construction, supply chain operations, and service contracts, as well as to expand business activities in newly connected regions.

Key Sector Initiatives

Public Safety Sector

¢29.2bn The focus is on ensuring security, law and order, and disaster preparedness.

	GoG will retool the National Fire Service through the procurement of 100 fire tenders and high-rise fire equipment to strengthen emergency response capacity.		The Justice Sector Reforms - Prosecution & Case Backlog Reduction programme aims to fast-track thousands of cases and improve financial management to strengthen rule of law.
	The Anti-Galamsey Community Restoration Projects aims to reclaim 1,000 hectares expanding to 10,000 hectares with community participation for ecosystem recovery.		GoG will acquire two (2) 72-metre Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) equipped with helipads and combat systems for the Ghana Navy.
	Comprehensive retooling and modernisation programme to strengthen the operational effectiveness of the Ghana Armed Forces (GAF).		GoG will begin the procurement processes for the acquisition of four modern helicopters, one long-range and one medium-range aircrafts as part of the retooling of the Ghana Air Force.

EY Point of View

The public safety initiatives are poised to potentially strengthen emergency response systems, enhance environmental recovery efforts, and improve national security infrastructure. The GoG’s commitment to modernising institutions, expanding operational capacity, and advancing justice delivery is expected to safeguard lives, restore ecosystems, and reinforce defence capabilities. For stakeholders, including emergency responders, law enforcement agencies, local communities, and private contractors, these reforms present opportunities for capacity building, strategic partnerships, and participation in public safety projects, while requiring continuous alignment with evolving regulatory and operational standards.

Proposed Tax Measures

Proposed Tax Measures (1/5)

Taxes to be Abolished



COVID-19 Health Recovery Levy



VAT on Reconnaissance and Prospecting of Minerals

Taxes to be Reduced or Benefit Extended



Reduction in the Effective VAT Rate from 21.9% to 20% resulting from the decoupling of the NHIL and GETFund Levies and the abolishing of the Covid-19 Levy.



VAT registration threshold increased from GHS200,000 to GHS 750,000



Zero-rating on the supply of locally manufactured textiles extended to 2028.

The GoG intends to implement the above reforms to ease the burden on households, reduce the cost of doing business in Ghana, revive investor confidence and stimulate business growth while safeguarding long term stability.

EY Point of View

- The change in the VAT rate requires timely recalibration of invoicing systems and processes to ensure smooth business operation. GoG may need to assess the feasibility of full implementation of the law on 1 January 2026 as businesses may need more time to make the necessary technology and system changes to accommodate the new VAT rate.
- The abolition of the VAT on reconnaissance and prospecting of minerals is expected to reduce the cost of mining operations and attract new investments into the sector.
- The increase in the VAT registration will remove the administrative burden of VAT compliance for affected SMEs. These SMEs will fall under modified taxation which simplifies tax compliance for such qualifying individual businesses. Despite the simplification of taxes under modified taxation, affected SMEs will absorb VAT incurred as cost in their business operation. Tax education needs to be intensified to bring clarity to SMEs on the difference between modified and standard taxation.
- The extension of the zero rating for local textiles aims at supporting the domestic textile and garment industry to maintain their competitiveness while propelling job creation.

Proposed Tax Measures (2/5)

Strengthening Tax Administration, Compliance & Enforcement

The ITAB is ready to operate as the 21-day Constitutional threshold for the coming into force of the Revenue Administration (Independent Tax Appeal Procedure) Regulations, 2025, has passed. While awaiting gazette notification, it is worth mentioning that the implementation of the Regulations creates a quasi-judicial arbiter independent of the GRA to offer a fair way to resolve tax disputes in Ghana.

GRA is expected to complete the cleansing of its taxpayer registry and launch the first stage of the Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS) by end of December 2025.

Additionally, the Minister highlighted that the GoG is proposing several measures aimed at improving oversight and accountability in cross border shipments. These include:

- Deployment of AI driven pre-arrival inspections for all shipments which will help ensure that goods are accurately declared and assessed before they reach the ports;
- Establishment of a special recovery unit and implementation of an inter agency audit focused on import-related transfers;
- Matching of foreign exchange transfers with verified import data by the Bank of Ghana, ensuring that all transactions are legitimate and properly documented.

EY Point of View

Businesses may need to prepare for an intensive compliance environment as GoG rolls out the various revenue administrative reforms. The enforcement of the tax laws by GRA is expected to heighten as GoG expects tax revenue increases albeit abolition and reduction of some taxes to ease the cost of doing business in Ghana.

The customs revenue assurance measures as proposed by GoG seeks to enhance transparency and accountability in port processes. This is likely to raise more revenue without necessarily introducing new tax handles. For genuine taxpayers, these initiatives could also mean a fair tax system that ensures that all imports are accurately declared and taxed.

The operationalisation of the ITAB provides a relatively impartial platform for tax dispute resolution to taxpayers. This approach is cheaper and less time consuming compared to the court processes.

Proposed Tax Measures (3/5)

Modernisation of VAT Administration

- GoG plans to introduce digital tax collection for cross-border digital service providers / non-resident taxpayers; roll out FED to monitor taxable transactions within the informal sector; and launch a VAT reward scheme to incentivise the public to demand for VAT receipts when transacting.
- GRA will embark on a comprehensive public education campaign and phased roll-out of planned initiatives.
- The effort being made by GoG is expected to capture VAT on e-commerce and non-resident suppliers and improve real-time compliance while reducing under-reporting at the PoS.

Tax Administration

New Introductions

- FED
- VAT Reward Schemes

EY Point of View

The proposed VAT reforms are aimed at expanding the tax net and closing the revenue leakages in the administration of indirect taxes. The modernisation may require businesses to prepare for a more stringent reporting requirements as GoG introduces digital tax collection for cross border platforms, rolls out FEDs and launches a VAT reward scheme to enforce taxpayer compliance.

During the phased rollout, companies may face transitional issues such as system adjustments which may require closer engagement with GRA.

Proposed Tax Measures (4/5)

Review and Consolidation of the Customs Act

- According to the MOF, the current customs regime requires a full overhaul to keep pace with global tax developments and the digital transformation of the economy.

The parameters of this review is intended to:

- Simplify border procedures
- Reduce clearance times
- Lower compliance costs for businesses

EY Point of View

Simplifying the customs procedures, if achieved by these reforms will enhance revenue mobilisation and block the leakages to other ports within the region.

The adoption of risk-based inspections and trusted trader programmes will ease the flow of custom processes and practices. GRA will have to engage the business community and industry experts as part of the reform process to enhance clarity, create a robust custom process and ensure certainty for taxpayers.

Review & Consolidation – Income Tax Act (Act 896)

- GoG proposes a comprehensive overhaul of Act 896 to keep up with global tax developments and the digital transformation of the economy. The reforms are geared towards aligning the Income Tax Act with OECD/G20/ATAF developments, etc.
- The reform seeks to strengthen provisions in 2026 to tax non-residents with significant digital/economic presence pending full reform. Its implementation will involve stakeholder engagements and a draft bill to Parliament in the 2027 budget.
- To ensure the GoG receives its fair share of global income and to enhance its ability to finance national priorities without placing excessive burdens on domestic taxpayers, the GoG intends to deepen its involvement in the UN Framework on International Tax Cooperation and BEPS initiatives to position itself to fairly tax non-resident multinationals and digital companies.

With the planned overhaul of Act 896 to align with global best practices, GRA will need to engage all qualifying stakeholders in a timely manner to ensure a robust tax system.

The introduction of digital service income tax through Significant Economic Presence Rule is expected to commence in 2026. This reflects GoG's determination to tax the digital economy, in particular non-resident companies that do not have physical presence in Ghana but generate income from dealings with persons in Ghana. It is unclear whether there will be a *de minimis* turnover threshold to trigger applicability.

Proposed Tax Measures (5/5)

Review and Consolidation of the Excise Duty Act

According to the MOF, the current Excise Duty Act, 2014 (Act 878) will undergo a comprehensive review to reflect both global trends and Ghana's domestic priorities.

The parameters of the Excise reforms to be determined include the following:

- Expand excise regimes to include carbon-intensive products, plastics, and sugary beverages
- Harmonise excise rates, broaden the tax base
- Ensure excise policies encourage healthy living, environmental protection, and fiscal responsibility

EY Point of View

The review implies that businesses, especially those dealing in carbon intensive products, plastics, and sugary beverages, may face new or increased taxes.

Broadening of the tax base and harmonising tax rates may have an impact on the pricing, operations and compliance requirements for affected businesses.

As businesses await the full reform, measures will have to be put in place to realign activities while preparing the grounds for a good takeoff once the reforms are implemented. As may be necessary, businesses will need to engage GoG to ensure that any changes reflects wider business interest albeit the needs of other stakeholders must be satisfied simultaneously.

ESG Policy Measures and Interventions

ESG Policy Measures and Interventions | ESG Policy Measures (1/2)

Policy, Law, or Regulation	ESG Category	Summary	EY Point of View
1. Legislative Instrument for Affirmative Action Act	Social	Regulations to ensure the effective implementation of the Affirmative Action Act to be laid in parliament.	This Act is expected to deepen gender equality and women's empowerment in Ghana, supporting SDG 5 (Gender Equality).
2. VAT Reform Package	Social	GoG modernised VAT system will include abolishing the Covid-19 levy, reducing the effective VAT rate, raising registration thresholds, and simplifying administration.	The new system could reduce business costs and support MSME growth, aligning with SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)
3. National Gender Policy	Social	Cabinet has approved the revised National Gender Policy to strengthen inclusion and women's empowerment.	This new policy is expected to further enhance women's empowerment and support Ghana's progress towards SDG 5 (Gender Equality).
4. Workplace HIV and Wellness Policy	Social	Cabinet approval has been obtained for the workplace HIV and wellness policy. Additionally, a National HIV Response Sustainability Roadmap has been finalised.	This policy is expected to promote occupational health and corporate responsibility and support progress towards SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) while also helping to minimising the growing rate of HIV.
5. Social Protection Act, 2025 (Act 1148)	Social	To tackle inequality, the Act has been enacted, and the accompanying Legislative Instrument is currently being finalised.	This Act could potentially enhance support for vulnerable groups, promote inclusive development, and advance progress towards SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).

ESG Policy Measures and Interventions | ESG Policy Measures (2/2)

Policy, Law, or Regulation	ESG Category	Summary	EY Point of View
6. Ghana Green Finance Taxonomy (GGFT) Phase III	Environment	GGFT Phase III will see expansion of investments into green projects across mining, manufacturing, and adaptation related sectors with genuine environmental benefits.	The policy is expected to strengthen Ghana's sustainable finance ecosystem and reduce greenwashing, supporting SDG 13 (Climate Action).
7. Anti-Illegal Mining Regulatory Measures	Environment	Excavator importers now require approvals from the Ministry of Transport and all mining machinery must be DVLA registered. Electronic trackers installed on mining equipment and GHS 150m allocated to curb illegal mining.	This is expected to curb the current illegal mining and environmental pollution threats and support progress sustainable mining.
8. Review & Modernisation of the Excise Duty Act, 2014 (Act 878)	Environment	GoG intends reviewing the Excise Duty Act to reflect global trends of taxes on carbon-intensive products, plastics, and sugary beverages while promoting environmental health.	It is expected to strengthen Ghana's alignment with global climate and public-health tax standards and support efforts towards SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)

ESG Policy Measures and Interventions | ESG Interventions (1/2)

Initiative	ESG Category	Summary	EY Point of View
1. GreenShield Initiative	Environment	GoG will implement a nature-based coastal and ecological restoration programme along the coastline to address coastal erosion, tidal surges, sea-level rise, and plastic pollution.	This initiative has the potential to minimise the effects of coastal erosion, tidal surges and sea-level rise in coastal areas aligning with SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 14 (Life Below Water)
2. Integrated Recycling and Compost Plant (IRECOP)	Environment	GoG has allocated GH¢400 million for the Integrated Recycling and Compost Plant (IRECOP).	This initiative is anticipated to significantly improve waste management and sanitation in Ghana, aligning with SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and carbon credit generation.
3. Sovereign Drought Insurance and Parametric Flood Insurance	Environment	GoG procured a sovereign drought insurance to support small holder farmers and will introduce flood parametric insurance to protect vulnerable residents in flood-prone areas.	These interventions are expected to strengthen climate resilience and contribute to SGD 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)
4. Circular Economy Framework for Plastics	Environment	The Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovation (MESTI) provided Grants to SMEs for biodegradable/recycled materials, collected 927 tonnes of e-waste collected and trained 194 staff.	The programme promotes sustainable production and waste reduction and supports SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).
5. Energy and Green Transition	Environment	Ghana's Nuclear Power Programme has completed site selection and installed a NuScale Power Simulator to train engineers, paving the way for the country's first nuclear power plant. Under the Energy Compact, Ghana targets 99.8% electricity access, 50% clean cooking access, and a 10% renewable energy share by 2030. Additionally, to advance e-mobility, the Energy Commission has drafted EV charging regulations and commissioned a solar-powered EV station in Accra.	These measures could potentially reduce reliance on traditional fuels, improve air quality, and support sustainable development. Additionally, the push for e-mobility—through EV regulations and solar-powered charging infrastructure—aligns with global climate goals and SDGs 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and 13 (Climate Action), positioning Ghana as a leader in clean energy transition.
6. One Child, One Tree Initiative	Environment	MESTI launched a nationwide tree planting to instil environmental responsibility among youth.	This initiative will create awareness among youth and supports environmental sustainability and climate action, aligning with SDG 13 (Climate Action)

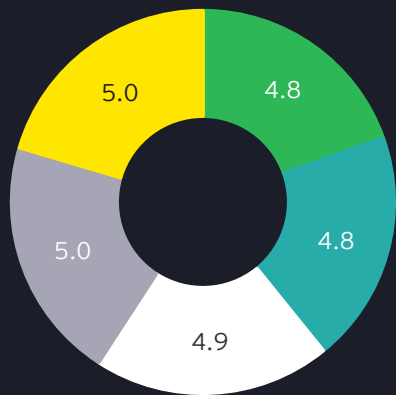
ESG Policy Measures and Interventions | ESG Interventions (2/2)

Initiative	ESG Category	Summary	EY Point of View
7. Women in Trade, Agribusiness and Industry Programme	Social	This initiative will support women entrepreneurs in cross-border trade and agribusiness	This programme has the potential to expand participation in regional value chains and supports SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)
8. National Sanitation Campaign	Social	30,000 toilets and 500 mechanised public facilities will be constructed under the National Sanitation Campaign	This campaign is anticipated to improve household and community sanitation, aligning with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation)
9. Water for All	Social	GoG will complete and commission the Damango, Bawku, and Yendi water systems.	This intervention has the potential to improve access to clean water, aligning with SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation)
10. Integrated Oil Palm Development Policy	Social, Environment & Governance	This policy introduces key initiatives, including a US\$500 million Oil Palm Development Finance Window and a new outgrower partnership scheme to engage smallholder farmers. It prioritises projects that safeguard the environment, generate employment, and uphold labor rights.	This policy has the potential to promote sustainable agricultural practices, aligning with SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)
11. National Sanitation Campaign	Social	30,000 toilets and 500 mechanised public facilities will be constructed under the National Sanitation Campaign	This campaign could improve household and community sanitation, aligning with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation)

Medium-Term Outlook

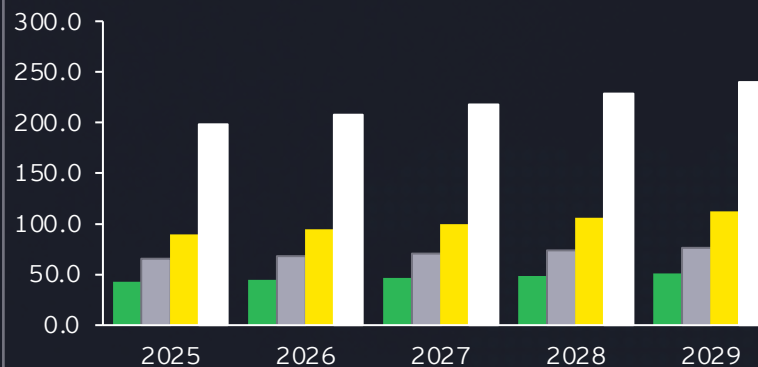
Medium-Term Outlook | Ghanaian Economy (1/2)

Real GDP Growth Rates (%)



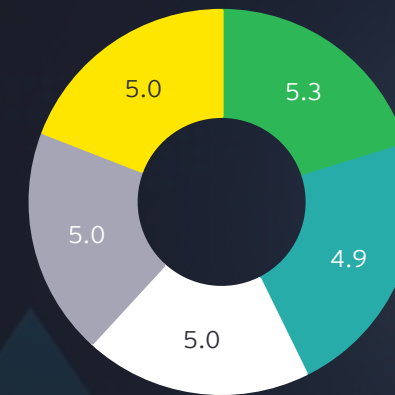
■ 2025 ■ 2026 ■ 2027 ■ 2028 ■ 2029

Sectoral Contribution to Real GDP (GHS'M)



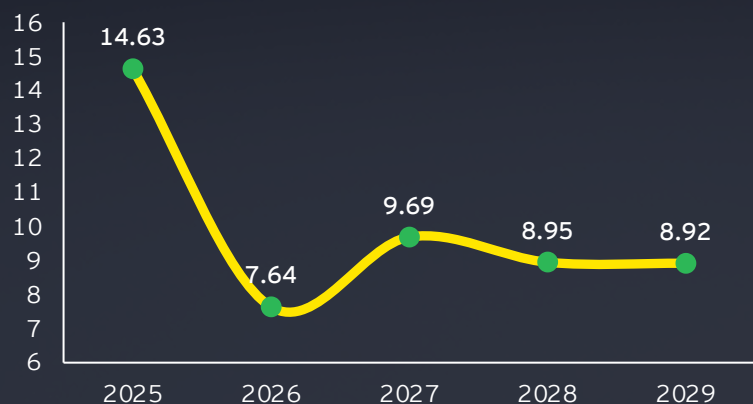
■ Agriculture ■ Industry ■ Services ■ Total GDP

Non-Oil Growth Rates (%)

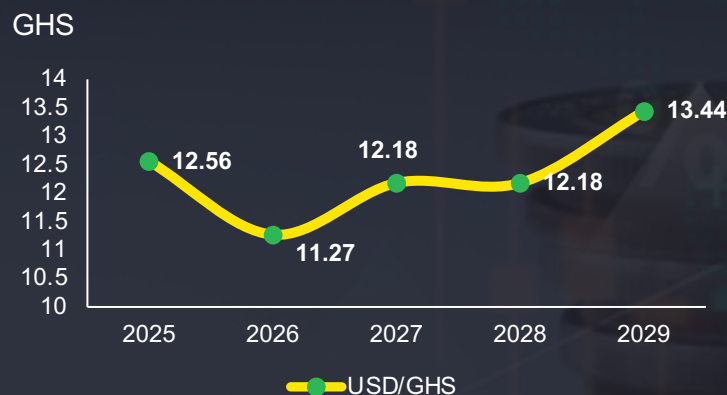


■ 2025 ■ 2026 ■ 2027 ■ 2028 ■ 2029

Average Inflation Rates (%)

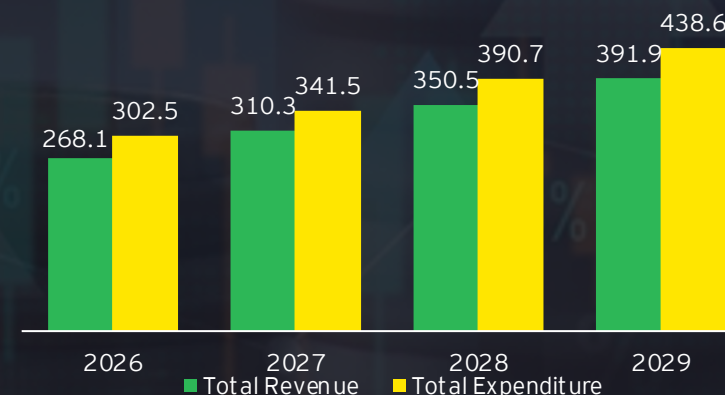


Exchange Rates (Cedi/US\$)



— USD/GHS

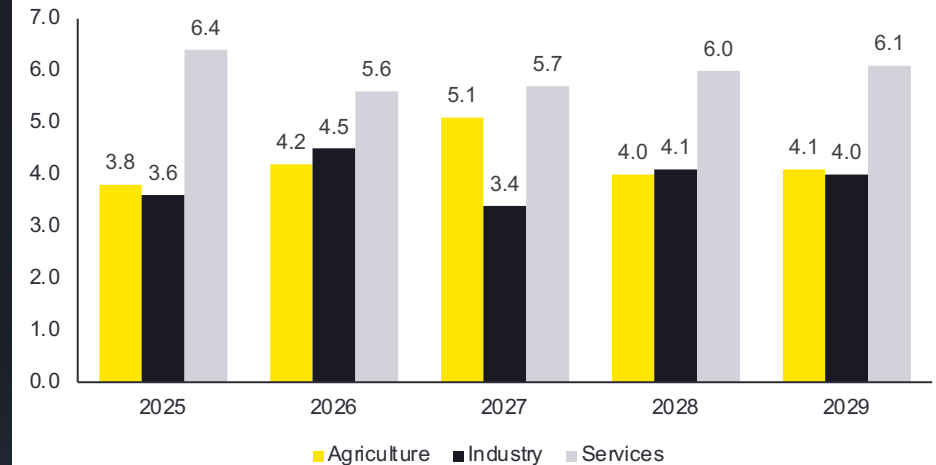
Total Revenue vs Expenditure (GHS'M)



Outlook

- The medium-term economic outlook presents both challenges and opportunities, with the economy expected to experience moderate growth. Real GDP is projected to grow from 4.8% at the end of 2025 to 4.9% in 2027, before stabilizing at ~5.0% from 2028 to 2029. However, the non-oil GDP growth rate is expected to follow a different pattern, projected at 5.3% at the end of 2025, slightly decreasing to 4.9% in 2026, before stabilizing at 5.0% from 2027 to 2029.
- Average inflation is projected to fall sharply from 14.6% in 2025 to 7.6% in 2026, then rise to 9.7% in 2027, averaging 8.9% in 2028-2029. Exchange rate stability will improve in 2026 at 11.27, supported by higher reserves, remittances, and improved export earnings-particularly from gold. Gross international reserves are expected to grow, reinforced by the new foreign exchange policy adopted in October 2025.
- Revenue growth is projected to rise marginally from 16.8% of GDP in 2026 to 16.9% of GDP by 2029. This will be alluded to enhanced tax reforms, expansion of domestic revenue mobilisation, and continuous compliance to fiscal discipline.
- Total expenditure is projected to remain stable at 18.9% from 2026 to 2029. In line with this, primary expenditure is set to increase gradually from 14.2% of GDP in 2025 to 15.3% in 2026, reaching 15.4% by 2029. This controlled rise is focused on investing in key areas like infrastructure, education, health, and digital transformation—especially through initiatives like the Big Push—while maintaining strict limits on routine spending.
- Debt sustainability remains a priority, with a continuous momentum towards prudent borrowing, active debt management, transparent reporting and adherence to its Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy. It is only by this means that MoF can ensure that ‘every cedi borrowed will deliver value, every repayment will build confidence, and every reform will secure Ghana’s fiscal future’.

Sector Growth Rate



- Agricultural growth is expected to average 4.2% annually, driven by improved cocoa production, increased investments in agribusiness, and policies aimed at enhancing productivity and value addition.
- The industrial sector is projected to grow at an average rate of 4.5%, with drivers including increased manufacturing activities and infrastructure development
- The services sector is expected to grow at an average of 5.6%, stemming from the finance and insurance industry, and activities and investments within the Information and communication industry.

Source: The 2026 Budget Statement and Economic Policy of Government

Contacts and Abbreviations

Our Partners



Emmanuel Adekahlor
Country Managing Partner (CMP)

+233 202 220429
emmanuel.adekahlor@gh.ey.com



Dr. Pamela Des Bordes
Partner, Assurance

+233 202 220397
pamela.des-bordes@gh.ey.com



Isaac Nketiah Sarpong
Partner and Tax Lead

+233 577 653377
isaac.sarpong@gh.ey.com



Michael Sackey
Partner and Consulting Lead

+233 202 220394
michael.sackey@gh.ey.com



Priscilla Koranteng-Gyasi
Partner, Assurance

+233 548 770 029
priscilla.koranteng-gyasi@gh.ey.com



Kwadjo Yeboah
Partner, Assurance

+233 202 220393
kwadjo.yeboah@gh.ey.com



Alice Osei Okrah
Partner, Strategy and Transactions (SaT)

+233 246 528062
alice.osei.okrah@gh.ey.com



Yvette-Marie Ntrakwah
Associate Partner, Consulting

+233 531 007100
yvette-marie.ntrakwah@gh.ey.com



Kwasi Nyantakyi Owiredi
Associate Partner, Tax

+233 577682274
kwasi.owiredi@gh.ey.com



Martin Bortey
Associate Partner, Consulting

+233 577 708112
martin.bortey@gh.ey.com



Samuel Okine
Associate Partner, Assurance

+233 202 220426
samuel.okine@gh.ey.com



James Vanderpuye
Associate Partner, Assurance

+233 577 708101
james.vanderpuye@gh.ey.com

Abbreviations

AI	Artificial Intelligent
AIP	Agreement in principle
ART	Anti-retroviral treatment
ASAP	Accelerating Solar Action Programme
Bn/B	Billion
BoG	Bank of Ghana
CAPI	Capital
CHPS	Community Health Planning and Service
DACF	District Assembly Common Fund
DDEP	Domestic Debt Exchange Programme
ECF	Extended Credit Facility
EMDE	Emerging market and developing economies
ESG	Environmental Social Governance
ESLA	Energy Sector Levy Act
E-SPAR	Electronic Self Assessment Annual Report
EY	Ernst and Young
FGP	Feed Ghana Programme
GB	Great Britian
GDP	Gross Domestic Products
GETFL	Ghana Education Trust Fund Levy
GGFT	Ghana Green Finance Taxonomy
GHANEPS	Ghana Electronic Procurement System
GHS	Ghana Cedis
GIFMIS	Ghana Integrated Financial Management Information System
GNPC	Ghana National Petroleum Corporation
GoG	Government of Ghana
Govt	Government
GPSNP	Ghana Productive Safety Net Project
GRA	Ghana Revenue Authority
GSL	Growth and Sustainability Levy
GSLIP	Ghana Secondary Learning Improvement Programme
GTCDP	Ghana Tree Crops Diversification Project
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
H1, H2	First half, second half
ICT	Information Communication Technology
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ITAS	Integrated Tax Administration System
LEAP	Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty
LPG	Liquified Petroleum Gas
LSM	Large Scale mining
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies

MESTI	Ministry of Environment Science Technology and Innovation
Mn	Million
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MRO	Maintenance, repair and operation
MSM	Medium scale mining
MTDS	Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy
MTEF	Medium-Term Expenditure Framework
MTNDPF	Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework
NDA	Non-disclosure agreement
NEIP	National Entrepreneurship and Innovations Programme
NHF	National Homeownership Fund
NHIL	National Health Insurance Levy
NIA	National Identification Authority
NPL	Non-Performing Loan
NTR	Non-Tax Revenue
OCC	Official Creditor Committee
PIK	Payment in kind
PLHIV	People living with HIV
PPP	Public Private Partnership
Prov	Provision
PWD	Person with Disability
REIGT	Renewable Energy Investment and Green Transition
RTDP	Root and Tuber Development Project
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SHS	Senior high school
SIGA	State Interest and Governance Authority
SIL	Special import levy
SME	Small Medium Enterprise
SOCO	Social Cohesion Project
SOEs	State Owned Enterprises
SSM	Small Scale Mining
Tn	Trillion
TVET	Technical and Vocational Educational Training
USA	United states of America
US\$	United state dollars
USAIDS	US Agency for International Development
Var	Variance
VAT	Value Added Tax
WDG	Women's Development Bank
YEA	Youth Employment Agency
y-o-y	year on year

EY | Assurance | Consulting | Strategy & Transactions | Tax

EY is building a better working world by creating new value for clients, people, society and the planet, while building trust in capital markets.

Enabled by data, AI and advanced technology, EY teams help clients shape the future with confidence and develop answers for the most pressing issues of today and tomorrow.

EY teams work across a full spectrum of services in assurance, consulting, tax, strategy and transactions. Fueled by sector insights, a globally connected, multi-disciplinary network and diverse ecosystem partners, EY teams can provide services in more than 150 countries and territories.

All in to shape the future with confidence.

EY refers to the global organisation, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. Information about how EY collects and uses personal data and a description of the rights individuals have under data protection legislation is available via ey.com/privacy. For more information about our organisation, please visit ey.com.

© 2025 Ernst & Young, Africa.
All Rights Reserved.

ED None

Information in this publication is intended to provide only a general outline of the subjects covered. It should neither be regarded as comprehensive nor sufficient for making decisions, nor should it be used in place of professional advice. Ernst & Young LLP accepts no responsibility for any loss arising from any action taken or not taken by anyone using this material.

ey.com