

ASUTIFI NORTH DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

Introduction 30. For the 2022 financial year, total allocations to the six Assemblies in the Ahafo Region were GH¢7,393,807.22.

Out of this amount, GH¢2,390,459.22 was deducted at source in favour of the Assemblies' Service Providers leaving net cash transfers of GH¢5,003,348.00 representing 67.67 percent of the total allocations shown in Appendix 'A'. Contract Irregularity Abandoned/ Delayed Projects - GH¢489,622.41 31. Section 52 of the Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921) requires, Coordinating Directors as the Principal Spending Officers to institute proper control systems to prevent losses and wastage. 32. We observed that, 11 projects under construction by four Assemblies were either abandoned or unduly delayed.

The projects comprise of DACF projects located at various towns in the region. Payments made so far towards the construction of these projects amounted to GH¢489,622.41. Details below:

Assembly	No. of projects	Expected Completion date	Period of delay	Amount	%/Level completed	Reasons for Abandonment
Asutifi North District Assembly	2	Aug. 2022- Dec 2022	2 - 6 months	62,922.15	65 - 95	Funding Challenges

33. The situation has denied citizens of the immediate use of the projects and the likelihood of the Assembly incurring a higher cost in repackaging these projects cannot be ruled out.

34. We recommended that, management should ensure that, projects under the care of the Assemblies that have been abandon and or unduly delayed are repackaged, awarded and completed before new ones are awarded to enable the citizenry derive the full benefits of the projects.

Sanitation Management Irregularity Required number of vehicles and containers not provided under Sanitation Improvement Package

35. Clause 3(c) and schedule one of the Service Agreement of the Sanitation Improvement Package (SIP) between Asutifi North District Assembly, Tano North Municipal Assembly and Zoomlion Ghana Limited requires Zoomlion Ghana Ltd to provide a number of refuse trucks and containers to manage waste in the two Assemblies.

36. We however noted that the required number of SIP trucks and refuse containers had not been supplied by Zoomlion and Management of the Assemblies could not produce any formal communication to Zoomlion on the situation of the sanitation equipment. Details are below:

Assembly	Equipment	No Required	Number Supplied	Number Not Supplied
Asutifi North District Assembly	Skip truck	2	1	1

37. We were unable to quantify the value of services not rendered as the deliverables in the Agreement were not individually priced.

38. This has denied the Assemblies the services of this equipment needed for efficient management of sanitation in their jurisdictions. The Assemblies had therefore been paying for contract provisions not carried out.

39. We recommended to Management of the affected Assemblies to officially notify Zoomlion Ghana Ltd and ensure that they supply the refuse containers and trucks without further delay in accordance with the service agreement. We also recommended that Management of the Assemblies should adhere to the dictates of the agreements and notify ZGL of any outstanding commitments and in subsequent review of the Agreements, ensure that the services are priced individually for ease of apportioning costs to unperformed services.

Tax Irregularity

Non-deduction of withholding taxes - GH¢3,801.30 44. Section 116 of the Income Tax Act, 2015 (Act 896) requires a resident person, other than an individual to withhold tax at the appropriate rates from the gross amount of the payment for the supply of goods, service and works which exceeds GH¢2,000.00.

45. We noted that two Assemblies paid GH¢83,876.20 to 12 suppliers for goods and services without deducting the total withholding tax of GH¢3,801.30. Details are provided below:

No	Name of Assembly	No of Vouchers	Total Payment	Tax
1.	Asutifi North District Assembly	3	33,825.70	2,029.55

46. This action could deny the state tax revenue of GH¢ 2,029.55.

47. We recommended that, the Coordinating Directors and Finance Officers of the affected Assemblies should pay their respective amounts to the Ghana Revenue Authority without further delay