

CREED GHANA

Visioneering National Renewal

EXECUTIVE BRIEF

A Framework for Civic Renewal
Seeking Partnership and Support

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To Know. To Serve. To Renew.

The Challenge

Ghana's democracy is a continental success story—peaceful transitions of power, a vibrant press, resilient institutions. Yet beneath these achievements lie troubling currents:

- **Civic knowledge has eroded.** The National Anthem and Pledge are recited without understanding. Constitutional provisions are unknown to most citizens.
- **Youth are disengaged.** Many young Ghanaians view politics as spectacle rather than calling, disconnected from the democratic project.
- **Corruption persists.** Despite constitutional safeguards, public trust continues to erode.
- **Civic education has failed.** Confined to rote memorization, it produces exam-passers, not citizens.

This is not a crisis of democratic structures—Ghana has those. It is a crisis of democratic culture, which must be cultivated.

The CREED Vision

CREED (Civic Renewal, Education, Engagement, and Development) offers a framework to transform civic education from classroom subject to national movement.

CREED's Core Proposition:

Transform the National Anthem and Pledge from ceremonial relics into living curricula for civic formation—grounding citizenship in Ghana's own moral texts rather than imported models.

The Five Pillars

1. Civic Literacy and Values Education

Knowledge of rights, duties, and institutions combined with values formation through Ghana's founding texts.

2. Ethical Leadership and Public Accountability

The Leadership Lens model: Vision, Virtue, Voice, and Vigilance as dimensions of integrity.

3. Participatory Citizenship and Community Action

The Community Action Cycle: Awareness → Planning → Action → Reflection → Renewal.

4. Civic Technology and Innovation

The Civic Lab model connecting education, innovation, data, ethics, community, and sustainability.

5. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Sustainability

The CREED Renewal Index for measuring civic progress across all pillars.

What Makes CREED Different

Grounded in Ghanaian Identity

Unlike imported models, CREED is rooted in Ghana’s own moral foundations:

- The National Anthem’s call for “true humility” and “fearless honesty”
- The Pledge’s commitment to service “with all my strength and with all my heart”
- The Constitution’s mandate for civic education (Article 232)
- Indigenous traditions of *nnoboa* (communal labor) and deliberative governance

Formation, Not Just Information

CREED treats civic education as character formation:

Traditional Approach	CREED Approach
Memorize constitutional clauses	Analyze moral principles in founding texts
Pass examinations	Practice civic virtues
Learn about government	Engage in community action
Individual knowledge	Collective transformation

Honest About Its Stage

CREED is offered as a **founding document**—a vision seeking partners, not a report on achievements:

- Frameworks are proposals awaiting testing
- Partnerships named are relationships to be cultivated
- Case vignettes are illustrations of possibility
- Measurement tools require collaborative development

This transparency is intentional. Authentic partnership begins with honest communication.

Practical Tools Developed

CREED offers ready-to-test resources:

For Educators

- **Anthem and Pledge Analysis:** Phrase-by-phrase moral analysis with pedagogical applications for Primary, JHS, and SHS levels
- **Sample Lesson Plans:** Complete lesson outlines including “The Meaning of Fearless Honesty” and “Understanding Local Government”
- **Discussion Guides:** Questions and activities for each pillar

For Leaders

- **Leadership Lens Self-Assessment:** 20-item tool measuring Vision, Virtue, Voice, and Vigilance
- **Ethical Leadership Framework:** Four-dimension model with scoring interpretation

For Communities

- **Community Action Cycle Facilitation Guide:** Step-by-step instructions for all five stages
- **Stakeholder Mapping Tools:** Templates for community engagement

For Institutions

- **CREED Renewal Index Framework:** Indicators across all five pillars
- **Constitutional Provisions Analysis:** Article 232 and related mandates

Full Vision Guide (73 pages) available upon request
Includes complete frameworks, extended appendices, and comprehensive bibliography.

Constitutional Alignment

CREED directly supports Ghana's constitutional mandate for civic education:

Article 232: National Commission for Civic Education

The NCCE shall:

- (a) Create and sustain awareness of the principles and objectives of the Constitution
- (b) Educate and encourage the public to defend the Constitution
- (c) Formulate programmes aimed at realising constitutional objectives
- (d) Inculcate in citizens awareness of their civic responsibilities and appreciation of their rights and obligations

CREED is designed to complement, not compete with, the NCCE's mandate. It offers curricula, methods, and measurement tools that could extend the Commission's reach and deepen its impact.

Alignment with National Priorities

- **Decentralization:** Community Action Cycle supports district-level civic engagement
- **Anti-corruption:** Leadership Lens framework addresses integrity development
- **Youth engagement:** Frameworks designed for Primary through SHS integration
- **National unity:** Grounding in shared texts (Anthem, Pledge) builds common identity

Partnership Opportunities

CREED seeks partners across sectors:

Government Institutions

- **NCCE:** Pilot curricula in selected districts; integrate frameworks into programming
- **Ghana Education Service:** Test lesson plans in schools; train teachers
- **Ministry of Education:** Policy alignment and curriculum integration

Research Institutions

- **CDD-Ghana:** Validate CREED Renewal Index; Afrobarometer data integration
- **University of Ghana:** Academic collaboration; philosophical foundation review
- **University of Michigan:** Research partnership; diaspora engagement model

Civil Society

- **STAR-Ghana Foundation:** Governance programming alignment
- **Ghana Integrity Initiative:** Anti-corruption curriculum components
- **Community-based organizations:** Local pilot implementation

What We Seek

- **Pilot Partners:** Districts or schools willing to test CREED curricula
- **Research Collaborators:** Institutions to validate frameworks and measurement tools
- **Endorsers:** Respected voices to lend credibility to the vision
- **Funders:** Support for pilot implementation and evaluation
- **Critics:** Honest assessment to strengthen the frameworks

About the Founder

Ben Adarkwa Dwamena, MD is a Clinical Associate Professor Emeritus of Radiology, Division of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. His work spans clinical medicine, statistical methodology, and civic education.

Professional Background

- Developer of sophisticated statistical software for diagnostic test accuracy meta-analysis (MIDAS suite, HSROC models, Bayesian inference tools)
- Author of clinical atlases and quantitative interpretation guides for nuclear medicine
- Experienced in developing systematic frameworks that translate complex concepts into practical tools

Connection to Ghana

- Maintains deep ties to Ghana despite diaspora residence
- Founded CREED from conviction that civic renewal requires systematic frameworks
- Brings both clinical expertise and lived experience to the work
- Committed to contributing to Ghana's national development

Why a Physician Founded CREED

“As a physician, I learned that health is not merely the absence of disease but a positive state requiring cultivation and community support. The same is true of civic health. A democracy is not healthy simply because it lacks civil war or dictatorship; it requires active cultivation of the knowledge, values, and practices that sustain self-governance.”

Next Steps

CREED is ready for the next phase: moving from vision to pilot implementation.

Immediate Opportunities

1. **Review the Full Vision Guide**

73-page document with complete frameworks, pedagogical materials, and appendices available upon request.

2. **Arrange a Presentation**

I am available to present CREED to your institution, in person during Ghana visits or via video conference.

3. **Provide Feedback**

Critical assessment strengthens the work. I welcome honest evaluation of CREED's frameworks.

4. **Explore Partnership**

Discuss specific collaboration opportunities aligned with your institution's mission.

Contact Information

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Available for Ghana visits by arrangement

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