

Ghana Agribusiness Essay Contest 2017

Theme: Inclusive participation of citizenry in agriculture value chain activities and enriching the policy environment

Timeline

Date	Activity
July 17, 2017	Application opens
October 31, 2017	Deadline for applications. Applications must be submitted by 5pm (GMT) on October 31. Applications submitted after this deadline will not be considered
November 17, 2017	Selection of applications. Shortlisted essays submitted will be contacted by email and phone call no later than the November 17, 2017. The winning essays will be announced on December 01, 2017
July 17, 2017	Start of the programme
December 19, 2017	End of the programme

Summary

Agricinghana and partner organisations invite professionals, entrepreneurs, students, journalists, and the general public to participate in an opportunity to improve the use of knowledge in Ghana's agricultural sector.

The Ghana Agribusiness Essay contest is an opportunity to help Ghanaians clearly understand the current state of knowledge use to inform policy, identify windows of opportunity for change, prioritize areas for improvement and co-design feasible change plans to boost Ghana's agricultural sector.

The essay contest is aimed at promoting new business opportunities in crop, livestock, and aquaculture value chains in Ghana; raise awareness of opportunities in agriculture; and identify wealth creation activities among communities in Ghana.

This call is looking for committed change makers that are eager to initiate a process of change in Ghana's agricultural value chain and share best practices and innovative ideas.

Essay Topics

Write on any one of the essay topics listed below-

Topic 1: What is your big idea to boost agricultural productivity in Ghana?

Topic 2: How does Agricultural Technology (AgTech) and Financial Technology (FinTech) enrich productivity and decrease financial exclusion among the smallholder farmer population in Ghana?

Topic 3: Innovative financing options are available to agribusinesses in Ghana. Fact or fiction?

Topic 4: Innovation in Agriculture: The Role of Policy, Public Sector and Private Sector.

Submission Process

- i. Transfer participation fee of **GH¢49** to Vodafone Mobile Money Number: 0500000996
- ii. **Email** your essay as an attachment to: **Editor@agricinghana.com** and quote the **transaction reference number** in the mail body from (i) above. Insert in the subject line: **Ghana Agribusiness Essay 2017**
- iii. **Word length:** Not more than 500 words

Eligibility Criteria

Applications are invited from Ghanaian professionals, entrepreneurs, students, journalists, and the general public. Applicants should be Ghanaian citizens or dual-citizens (based in Ghana or in the diaspora). You can be resident anywhere in the world but should be a documented citizen (or dual citizen) of Ghana to qualify.

All submitted essays should include the following details:

Name| Occupation|Payment Reference Number| Phone Contact| Email| Postal Address (if any)

Assessment of Submitted Essays

A team of Experts in Agribusiness, Communication, and Finance will evaluate and score the submitted essays based on specified assessment criteria. The assessment will look at:

- The general quality of the essays;
- Originality of the submitted essays (non-plagiarised content);
- Research output proposing innovative new approaches such as design and system thinking, and human-centred design methods;
- The potential to generate organizational change, new thinking and use of knowledge.

Awards

- Early bird award (for best evaluated essays submitted by August 15): GH¢1,000
- 1st Prize: GH¢10,000
- 2nd Prize: GH¢5,000
- 3rd Prize: GH¢3,000
- 4th to 10th Prize: GH¢1,000

Certificates and gift packages will be awarded highest scoring essay submissions.

Disclaimer

Please note that the issuance of this Call does not constitute an award or commitment on the part of Agricinghana and partner organisations for an award. Agricinghana reserves the right to fund any or none of the best submitted essays or substitute with other awards.

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

All applicants will be notified on outcome.

All costs associated in the preparation and submission of an essay in response to this Call is the sole responsibility of the applicant.

Contact: Farmer Helpline: 0500000996 | Email: Editor@agricinghana.com