

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



**LAUNCH OF GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE STATS BANK AND STATS BANK
HACKATHON**

WELCOME ADDRESS BY:

**PROFESSOR NANA ABA APPIAH AMFO
VICE - CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2023
ISSER CONFERENCE CENTRE**



Professor Samuel Kobina Annim, Government Statistician

Her Excellency Vibeke Sandhom Pederson, Deputy Head of Mission,
Head of Cooperation, Embassy of Denmark

Members of Senior Management of the University of Ghana,

Professor Ayaga Bawah, Director of the Regional Institute for
Population Studies

Deans, Directors, and Heads of Departments

Distinguished Personalities from the Diplomatic Community,
Industry, Public and Private Sector Organizations, the Media, Civil
society, and Non-Governmental Organizations

Our cherished Hackathon Participants and Mentors

Participants from Second Cycle and Tertiary Institutions'

Distinguished Colleagues, Guests, and Students,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon,

It is indeed an honour to welcome you all to our evergreen campus this morning as we participate in this all-important function. As host, the University of Ghana is grateful for the opportunity to contribute significantly towards development drives and initiatives geared towards the growth and development of our society. As Vice-Chancellor of this great establishment, I deem it a pleasure to always participate in events of this nature, which bring the University of Ghana closer to its strategic objective of building stakeholder confidence in the capabilities of the University, and I accept to chair the function without any hesitation.

As a premier University in Ghana, we are privileged and proud to be the first tertiary institution to launch the online database for accessing disaggregated census statistics known as the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) Statsbank as well as the Statsbank Hackathon, which provides opportunities for students to raise awareness about the GSS Statsbank while creating avenues and opportunities for collaboration, mentorship, and team building. The objective of the Statsbank Hackathon strongly resonates with my goal as Vice-Chancellor which centres on the training of students who are critical thinkers, technologically adept, humane, culturally sensitive, and ready to provide leadership for the country and the continent.

The University of Ghana through the unwavering commitment of the Office of Research, Innovation, and Development (ORID); the Graduate School, the Regional Institute for Population Studies and the Public Affairs Directorate has collaborated with the Ghana Statistical Service to enable us to bring this initiative to fruition. I would like to specially acknowledge the presence of the Pro-VC(RID), and the Dean, School of Graduate Studies while rendering sincere appreciation for their support throughout the process. We cannot also underscore the support of the Embassy of Denmark, the key partner who lent support to the Ghana Statistical Service's quest to rollout an online database for census statistics. Today, their partnership has made this online census database fully accessible and operational.

As part of its high-level priorities, the University through ORID seeks to promote innovation through the Office of Research, Innovation, and Development by making use of Innovation Hubs. Today, the University of Ghana Business School, and its Innovation Hub are privileged to host and participate in the Statsbank Hackathon which is being run in tandem with the launch of the GSS Statsbank. Such initiatives and programmes are very essential and necessary for the holistic development of our cherished students, since it provides channels and

avenues for them to nurture and develop their God-given talents, while they gain experiences that are beneficial to their careers and chosen fields.

I warmly welcome you once again to the launch of the GSS Statsbank and the Statsbank Hackathon ceremony. We are pleased to have you join us at Ghana's hill of knowledge and we trust that you will learn a lot from today's programme while you interact, and network with the persons you will meet with today.

Prof. Nana Aba Appiah Amfo
Vice-Chancellor
Launch of Ghana Statistical Service Statsbank
August 29, 2023