Methodology Note on the District League Table 2016

The District League Table (DLT), produced by UNICEF Ghana and CDD Ghana, is a tool for strengthening social accountability between the state and its citizens for development. It is a simple ranking tool of the level of development in each of Ghana's 216 Districts. Instead of rating Districts by administrative compliance, it ranks them in terms of their delivery in six key sectors: health, education, sanitation, water, security and governance.

As the DLT seeks to examine the average state of development in Districts across the country, the indicators selected needed to represent a sufficiently wide range of social and economic sectors crucial to people's welfare. Several **key sectors were considered** at the outset, and the process of selecting the indicators for the DLT index was lengthy and iterative. **Key criteria for indicator selection** was agreed in advance[1]. Proposed indicators were then discussed with the service provider or relevant agency in Government. All the indicators are officially established national indicators available in national Government databases - the DLT did not involve any surveys or estimation of indicators. It is important to note that the DLT uses indicators to compile one single index, with a single score for each District. This means that the DLT provides a holistic overview of development in a District and does <u>not</u> provide a measure of how each District is doing in individual sectors.

Various pros and cons were then taken into account before **agreement with the relevant MDA** on each indicator was arrived at. In some cases, key indicators that had been proposed were found to be impossible to include as they did not meet the basic criteria of being available and robust at the District level. Once agreed, access to the data was an obstacle – indicators are still not easily, publicly available on a regular up-to-date basis. The final list of indicators is presented in the report. **The indicators are** across 6 key sectors and are listed below. The official data was provided by the relevant MDA. This year's DLT largely uses 2015 data, however there are some unfortunate exceptions to this, where some MDA was unable to provide data for the previous years and 2013 data was used instead.

Sector	Indicator		Measurement	Source	Year	Target
Education	District BECE pass rate		% of pupils that passed their BECE (average of the four core subjects pass rates)	EMIS (GES)	2014/15	100%
Sanitation	Community certification for Open Defecation Free	**In 2015 was:** Whether *District* is certified ODF or not	% of the District's communities that are certified ODF	Environmental Health and Sanitation, MLGRD (BASIS)	2015	100% of communities are certified ODF
Rural Water	Coverage of rural water supply (in Districts with rural populations only)		% of rural population covered by a rural water supply system	CWSA	2015	100%
Health	Skilled attendant at delivery		% of expected deliveries attended by skilled personnel	DHIMS (GHS)	2015	100%
Security	Coverage of police services		Number of population per	Ghana Police	2015	1 officer

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[1] The indicator had to be a key priority for people's wellbeing and District development; it had to be available at the District level in an annually produced national database for every District in Ghana; it had to be representative of the output or outcome level – i.e. not percentage of budget spent etc.

			police officer converted to 0-100 index			per 500 people
Governance	FOAT Performance Measures Score	**In 2015 was:** if FOAT Minimum conditions for District Administration met	FOAT Performance Measures Score	DDF/FOAT	2013	100%

Once the indicators were established and the data for each accessed, the **information was compiled into the DLT's index**. This was done in three basic steps:

   (i)   Ensuring that all indicators sat on a standard 0 to 100 percentage scale, where 0 is the worst (minimum) score and 100 is the best (maximum);

   (ii)   Aggregating all the indicators for each District without any weighting, i.e. all indicators contribute equally to the index. This simply means that the final score for each District was achieved by **adding up the 6 indicator values and dividing** the total by 6 to provide a simple average.

   (iii)   This provides us with **one single score for each individual District** by which all 216 can then be ranked, from the District in 1st place with the best level of development, to the District in 216th place with the most challenges. Clearly, the ultimate aim is to see all Districts each score 100% in the DLT – this would mean that the District's population have full access to core basic services as represented by the index.

In doing the first step, most of the indicators are already expressed as a percentage, with 100% as their ultimate target – i.e. the education and health indicators all run from 0% to 100% already. Two indicators are binary in nature with only two possible scores, either 0 or 100. These are the sanitation indicator (whether a District is certified open Defecation free or not); and the governance indicator (whether a District has met its minimum conditions under FOAT or not). One indicator is slightly different, that of police coverage which runs from 1 police personnel per 7000 people (the average worst coverage) to 1 police per 500 people (the target). This indicator was then converted to a scale of 0-100 as described below. As mentioned above, all data for the indicators was provided by the MDA, and no calculations, aside from that mentioned on police, was carried out.

Methodology FAQs:

1. **How was the average BECE pass rate calculated?**: The data was provided by GES. GES provided the pass rates in the 4 core BECE subjects for each District directly from the EMIS. Following agreement with GES, to calculate the average pass rate we simply added the 4 pass rates and divided the total by 4 for each District.

2. **How was the Skilled Delivery indicator calculated?**: The Ministry of Health provided the indicator themselves straight from the DHIMS.

3. **How was the Open Defecation Free indicator arrived at?:** Due to important improvements in data collection in the sector the sanitation indicator now reflects progress toward Open Defecation Free status at the *community* – rather than simply *District* – level as was the case in 2014 and 2015.

4. **How was the rural water indicator calculated?**: The data for each District was provided by CWSA directly from their database.
5. **Why is the water indicator only for rural water?:** CWSA were able to provide coverage data for rural water supply. The Ghana Water Company Ltd are responsible for providing urban water supply and were not able to provide data for urban water coverage in the administrative Districts due to District mapping difficulties.
6. **A few Districts do not have data for the rural water indicator, why not and what was done about this?**: In some purely urban Districts, CWSA is not providing rural water supply, so these Districts are left blank. However, last year the CWSA noted that they still had data gaps in rural Districts and as a result they made a significant effort to fill those gaps this year, which is highly commendable. In the calculation of the index for those Districts without a water indicator, their index score was simply calculated by dividing by 5 rather than the full 6 indicators.
7. **How was the police coverage indicator calculated?:** Ghana Police provided us with the numbers of police per Police District which was compared to the GSS population number in that District. Their target is to have 1 police personnel per 500 people. So the 0-100 scale runs from the worst average coverage of police personnel (which is 1 police personnel per 7,000 people) - this is equal to 0 in our 0-100 scale – up to 1 police personnel per 500 people, which is equal to 100 in the scale. There are 4 outlier Districts which have a police indicator that was substantially worse than the 7,000 upper limit – as a result these 4 Districts have a negative score for their police indicator.
8. **Police Districts are different from administrative Districts, how were they aligned?:** Ghana police grouped their Police Districts under the relevant 216 administrative Districts.
9. **How was the governance indicator on Performance Measures calculated?:** This information was provided directly from the FOAT database by the MLGRD.

List of MDA department partners on the DLT:

MDA	Departments collaborated with:
MLGRD	The Hon. Minister The Hon. Deputy Minister Chief Director The Director, District Development Facility Secretariat The Director, Environmental Health & Sanitation Division The Director, Research, Statistics and Information Management Directorate (RSIM). The Director, Social Accountability Unit.
GES	Director General
MoE	Chief Director EMIS Unit
GHS	Director General The Director of Research The Director PPME
CWSA	Planning and Investments Department IT Department
GWCL	Managing Director The Director, Research & Information

Ghana Police Service	Director-General Research, Planning, ICR and Marine Director of Research
GSS	Government Statistician (consulted for population data)