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Ghanaians advised to render voluntary services

NOYED-Ghana Executive Director Alhassan Abdulai Iddi and the team at NOYED-Ghana, have appealed to Ghanaians, especially the unemployed youth, to change their perspective and understand voluntary services as a critical step through which they could get jobs.

Mr Iddi said many graduate youths were without jobs in Ghana and should take the opportunity during their leisure time to take on volunteering to build their skills, knowledge and employment opportunities.

“Through volunteering, you not only gain skills and knowledge, but you build a network of contacts that will only increase your chances of becoming employed,” Mr Iddi said.

Mr Iddi’s plea to Ghanaian youth came during an address to a stakeholders’ workshop on community volunteer teachers in Tamale on Wednesday (18th September 2013), urging the youth to develop themselves through any opportunity that could lead them to a more fulfilling job.

He said the contributions of volunteerism to national development could not be over emphasized.

“The National Youth Policy document has highlighted the significance of volunteerism in Ghana and I encouraged the youth of Ghana to take up volunteering, to not only contribute to their community’s development but to also increase their prospective job opportunities,” Mr Iddi said.

“I also call on all stakeholders to support in this initiative for the purpose of national cohesion and development.”

Mr Iddi said NOYED-Ghana, with support from the Volunteering Service Oversea and Comic Relief, has been supporting education development in West Mamprusi District in the Northern Region, Talensi District in the Upper East Region and Jirapa District in the Upper West Region.

“These are some of the most poverty stricken areas in Ghana and it’s through education that we can make a difference and that’s where our volunteer teachers come in to the picture,” Mr Iddi said.

VSO Programme Manager Eric Duorinaah said his team had been working collaboration with other organizations, had been implementing the ‘Tackling Education Needs Inclusively (TENI)’ project, which had improved BECE results in beneficiary districts.

“Based on the successes of TENI, a new project is being developed to ensure the impact being made in the initial project was upscaled to increase quality education in rural communities,” Mr Duorinaah said.

“Some 49,800 children and 2,004 teachers had been given capacity building as part of this project.”

Mr Duorinaah appealed to personnel of the Ghana Education Service to be cautious about political interference stating such practices could undermine professional competence, which could also breakdown administrative procedures.

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