Information obtained:

History Overview

Ghana’s Economy

* Possesses abundance of natural resources
* Growth indicates potential to become developed country
* 2nd largest producer of gold in Africa
* 9th largest producer of diamonds
* 2nd largest producer of cocoa in world

Ghana’s Economic Assessment: Economic Vision

* To become a developed country 2020-2029
* Country has made progress
* Significant work still needed

Ghana’s Economic Trends (Cont.)

* Ghana exemplifies positive economic trends
* Ghana offers potential for enhanced trade
* Past 5 years U.S. goods & services increased
* U.S. companies establishing offices

Ghana’s Economic Trends (Cont.)

* U.S. companies have helped build infrastructure
* GE and IBM have offices in Ghana

Ghana Economic Assessment: Economic Trends

* Country is dependent on commodities
* Vulnerable to fluctuations in global demand

Ghana Economic Trends: The Future

* Will see more US companies
* Infrastructure will improve
* Increase in Investments and FDI

Ghana’s Economic Trends (Cont.)

* Economic Strategy: macroeconomic stabilization & structural reform

Ghana Economic Assessment: GDP

* GDP increased 14% in 2011
* 2015 projected increase of 7%
* IMF Ranking-7th in fastest growing economies

Ghana Economic Assessment: GDP (Cont.)

* Ghana’s GDP indicator of economic progress
* Ghana’s GDP means economy moving forward
* Country still needs to fight corruption
* Corruption impacts GDP
* Ghana’s standard of living is increasing

Ghana Economic Assessment: Effects of GDP

* Fall in Gold Prices reduced gold production
* Reduced production slows GDP
* Inflation causing reduction in PPP
* Discourages investment and savings

Ghana Economic Assessment: Consumer Price Inflation (CPI)

* CPI has increased
* CPI increased due to high fuel prices
* Government needs to maintain price stability

Ghana Economic Assessment: CPI (Cont.)

* Large rises of CPI has lead to inflation

Ghana Economic Assessment: Inflation

* Inflation 13.5% (December 2013)
* Highest in almost 4 years
* Country needs to make Cedi assets more attractive
* Country needs to broaden tax
* Ghana should renegotiate agreements with exporters
* Bold actions needed to rectify weakening Cedi

Ghana Economic Assessment: Inflation (Cont.)

* Important to reduce severity of economic recession
* Ghana’s central bank has now interceded
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Ghana Economic Assessment: Inflation (Cont.)

* The Central Bank interceding was necessary
* Ghana should consider increasing exports

Ghana’s Economic Assessment: Industrialization

* Ability to shape future through Industrialization
* Cocoa & mining contributing to socioeconomic growth
* Ghana should continue focus on industrialization

Ghana’s Economic Assessment: Unemployment

* Unemployment 11%
* Governance reason for unemployment
* Work to keep unemployment low

Ghana Economic Assessment: Money Supply

* Ghana has a developed banking system
* Control of money supply is ongoing issue

Ghana Economic Assessment: Things in Ghana’s Favor

* Reform efforts
* Agricultural potential
* Natural resources

Ghana Economic Assessment: Items to Follow

* Ghana currency
* The limit on foreign exchange withdrawals
* S& P Rating was downgraded to Negative (2013)

Ghana Economic Assessment: Conclusion

* 2014-15 Ghana will maintain gold as lead export
* 2014-15 oil industry will continue to grow
* Ghana will continue to work to reduce inflation
* Vital to improve legislation for growing oil industry
* Ghana has great potential

**Ghana: The Past Issues that are being Addressed that are Essential to Business Opportunities in Ghana**

* **Corruption is being addressed**
* **Leadership requiring more transparency and accountability**
* **Addressing inflation and cedi currency**
* **Improving infrastructure and intellectual property laws**

**Ghana: History of Country’s Economic Growth**

* **Ghana has experienced substantial growth over the years**
* **U.S. Companies have established a presence in Ghana**
* **Vast amount of resources has caused an increase in GDP**
* **The economy can now focus on expanding and FDI**

**Ghana: Growth in Various Areas Provides a Hub for American Opportunities**

* **Ghanaians are looking to improve their lives**
* **They are interested in expanding small & medium businesses**
* **The GH e-Transform project will improve communication efficiency**
* **Ghana culture has changed to a more open environment**
* **The government is now concentrating on more transparency**

**Ghana Culture: Things to Consider When Operating Businesses**

* **Different perception of personal space**
* **Ghanaians are early risers**
* **Traffic patterns and plenty of traffic**
* **Daily life is louder than U.S.**
* **Will require adapting to their way of life**

**Ghana: Partnership for Education Helps Economic Growth**

* **In 2012, Ghana is now working to improve education**
* **Education is vital for Economic development**
* **Initiatives to improve education is important step**

**Ghana: Currently There are Several Political Challenges for Businesses**

* **Inflation is a major issue currently**
* **Ghana is making strides in the right direction**
* **Success depends on leaders doing the right thing**

**Ghana: Corruption is a Hindrance for Business Opportunities**

* **For companies to be successful corruption needs to be reduced**
* **Transparency and accountability should be consistent focus**

**Ghana: Present Economic Situation with Trading**

* **Trade and FDI essential to economic development**
* **Tariffs are main trade policy instrument**
* **The U.S. is a principal trading partner**
* **English-speaking workforce beneficial**

**Ghana: Start Information Communications Technology (ICT) Business**

* **Internet access is still very scarce**
* **Market is not saturated**
* **Options available are low quality**
* **There is a demand for internet service**
* **Potential to be lucrative due to few facilities**
* **Business will be good for economic development**

**Ghana: ICT Business will be supported Politically, Culturally & Economically**

* **Leaders are on board with internet initiatives**
* **Ghanaians are willing to pay for quality service**

Political Concerns

Political Concern: Challenges of Small & Medium Businesses (SMEs)

* Need increase access to Internet
* Computer equipment is too expensive
* To expand business increase e-commerce

Political Concern:  
Ghana Fiscal Discipline & Debt Accumulation

* New Oil Revenue causing difficulties
* Important country does not get too big
* Exercise caution with spending

Political Concern: Ghana’s Corruption Major Concern

* Creates obstacles for Foreign Direct Investment
* Government has to be accountable
* Leaders and politicians need to prioritize
* Continue to amend laws regarding corruption

Political Concern: Ghana’s Rapid Growth Cause Infrastructure Deficiency

* Lack of infrastructure effects investors
* Improving water supply important
* Improving energy supply important
* Funds needed for infrastructure

Political Concern: Ghana’s Infrastructure Deficiency (Cont.)

* Eliminating frequent power outages imperative
* Identify ways to increase efficiency

Ghana Political Concern: Investors Apprehensive due to Fraud

* Investors need to complete due diligence
* Implement task force to reduce fraud

Ghana Political Concern: Inflation

* Increase fuel prices causing higher inflation
* Government needs to bring deficits down
* Continue tight monetary policy
* Continue tighter budget restraints

Political Concern: Ease of Political Transition

* Improves financial viability of businesses
* Allows businesses to contribute to society
* Accomplish by effective planning
* Management of operations important

Ghana Political Concern: Transparency of Regulatory System

* Continue to create transparent system
* Add resources to regulatory bodies
* Create easier registration process for investors
* Implement additional oversight of process

Ghana Political Concern: Stabilizing Currency (Cedi)

* New Regulations step in right direction
* Improving currency liquidity important
* Efforts will help private sector
* Private sector will help economic development

Ghana Political Concern: Protection of Intellectual Property

* Currently a cumbersome process
* Legal system is based on British common law
* Improve process for clear title
* Improve efficiency of legal process

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