GhIE
GHANA INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERING

NEWSLETTER

56TH AGM & CONFERENCE SPECIAL EDITION — April 2026

(From Left) Engr Ali Alimasuya Rabiu, President of the Nigerian Society of Engineers; Eng Refilwe Buthelezi, President of the Federation of African Engineering Organizations; Mr. Goosie Tanoh, Presidential Advisor on the 24-Hour Economy; Ing Ludwig Annang Hesse, President of the Ghana Institution of Engineering; Togbe Ayim Adzokoto II; and Gizella Tetteh-Agbotui, Deputy Minister for Works, Housing and Water Resources captured at the conference, united in advancing engineering-driven national development.

GhIE 56th Conference Set the Agenda for Food Security and National Development

The 56th Annual General Meeting and Conference of the Ghana Institution of Engineering has outlined a bold engineering-driven roadmap to strengthen Ghana's food security and economic resilience.

Held in Ho, the capital and the oxygen city of the Volta Region, from March 16 to 20, 2026, under the theme "Engineering the Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture Value Chain," the conference produced a set of strategic action points aimed at transforming the agricultural sector.

Central to these outcomes is the recognition that food security must be treated as an engineering priority, requiring a coordinated and structured national response. The conference emphasized the urgent need to scale up irrigation systems to support year-round farming and reduce reliance on rainfall.

Participants also called for a transition toward mechanised, technology-driven, and data-informed agriculture, supported by targeted government incentives. Improving road infrastructure was identified as critical to ensuring efficient movement of produce to markets and processing centres.

The outcomes further highlighted the importance of investing in post-harvest systems, renewable energy solutions, and precision agriculture supported by reliable data systems. Strengthening research, innovation, and circular economy approaches was also underscored.

In addition, the conference called for policy reforms, innovative financing, and stronger public-private partnerships, alongside strategic investment in people particularly youth and women to build skills in engineering, technology, and agribusiness.

These action points reflect a clear direction: engineering must lead the transformation of Ghana's food systems and drive sustainable national development.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

OUR DIGNITARIES WHO BROUGHT THE CONFERENCE TO LIFE THROUGH IMPACTFUL SPEECHES AND RESOUNDING MESSAGES OF SOLIDARITY

Goosie Tanoh
The presidential Advisor on the 24-Hour Economy, representing President John Mahama

Hon. Gizella Tetteh-Agbotui
Deputy Minister for Works, Housing and Water Resources

Ing Ludwig Annang Hesse
President of Ghana Institution of Engineering

Togbe Ayim Adzokoto II
Paramount Chief of Takla

Hon. Stephen Adon
MCE for Ho Municipal Assembly

Engr Ali Alimasuya Rabiu
President of the Nigerian Society of Engineers

Ing Oba Jones
President of Sierra Leonean Institution of Engineers

Eng. Christine Ogut
2nd vice president, Institution of Engineers of Kenya

Engr. Dadley Decontee Toe
President of the West African Federation of Engineering Organisations

Eng Refilwe Buthelezi
President of the Federation of African Engineering Organizations

Ing Akim Tijani
F-GhIE (Director, Technical Services Department, VRA)

Arc Tony Asare
President of the Ghana Institute of Architects

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE VALUE CHAIN FOR GHANA'S FUTURE

ENGINEERING DIALOGUE ADVANCES SOLUTIONS TO GHANA'S FOOD SECURITY ISSUES

Engineers from far and near converged in Ho to engineered food security and achieve sustainable agriculture value chain. March 17, 2026

One of the most significant outcomes of the conference was a clear, unified understanding of the barriers within the agricultural value chain.

Delegates identified persistent constraints: limited access to finance, insecure land tenure systems, high mechanization costs, and widespread post-harvest losses. These are not isolated issues, but interconnected problems requiring coordinated solutions.

Beyond identifying challenges, the conference produced a strong consensus on the way forward. A key outcome was the recognition that engineering solutions already exist but must be scaled and made accessible.

Innovations in irrigation, mechanization, storage, and data systems were highlighted as critical tools for transforming agriculture. However, participants emphasized that technology alone is not enough it must be supported by effective policies, financing models, and farmer-centred implementation.

The message from Ho is clear: engineering must lead.

The work now moves beyond dialogue to action and its success will be measured not in plans, but in the lives transformed, the losses reduced, and the future secured.

The true outcome of the 56th Annual General Meeting and Conference of the Ghana Institution of Engineering is not found in speeches or sessions, but in a renewed commitment to change the everyday realities of Ghana's farmers.

Held in Ho, the conference brought into sharp focus a simple but urgent truth: Ghana's food security challenges are human challenges. Behind every statistic is a farmer facing loss, uncertainty, and limited opportunity.

INSIGHTS FROM THE WOMEN IN ENGINEERING FORUM

STRENGTHENING AGRICULTURE THROUGH WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AND INCLUSION

The panel discussion on "From Soil to Shelf: Women Engineering Ghana's Food Future", held during the Women in Engineering Forum delivered a decisive outcome: empowering women through inclusive engineering solutions is essential to transforming Ghana's agricultural value chain.

A key outcome of the session was the recognition that women despite being central to food production and distribution remain underserved by engineering innovations. The panel, moderated by Ing Carlien Bou-Chedid – Past President of Ghana Institution of Engineering and featuring Dr. Grace Doku – Senior Lecturer, Ho Technical University, Dept. of Agricultural Sciences & Technology; Dr. Nana Adwoa S. Boateng – Food Scientist, Ho Technical University, Food Science & Engineering; Ms. Janet Abade – Farmer, Agro-processor & Founder, Madomise Women Farmers'Association / ELSJYNE Enterprises and Charlotte Tay – Agricultural Engineer.

The discussion highlighted persistent barriers, including limited access to mechanisation, finance, and fair markets. These constraints contribute to high post-harvest losses, driven by inadequate storage systems and weak cold-chain infrastructure. Concerns around food safety were also raised, with calls for improved standards, testing systems, and regulatory support.

A major outcome was the call for practical, co-designed engineering solutions technologies that are affordable, accessible, and developed in collaboration with the women who use them.

The panel emphasised the need for stronger partnerships between academia, industry, and local communities, alongside investment in the local production of safe and standardised processing equipment.

Equally important was the focus on capacity building and inclusion. The session underscored that with targeted mentorship, skills development, and institutional support, women can transition from participants to leaders across the agricultural value chain.

Overall, the forum concluded with a clear message: when women are intentionally equipped and included, agricultural systems become more productive, resilient, and sustainable securing Ghana's food future from soil to shelf.

Radiant smiles and confident expressions lit up the forum as WinE members came together reflecting not just beauty, but strength, unity, and the inspiring presence of women shaping the future of engineering.

ENGINEERING FOOD SECURITY FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

LEADING GHANA'S FOOD SECURITY AGENDA - THE ENGINEERING WAY

Experts engage in a panel discussion on "Engineering the Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture Value Chain" during the conference, sharing insights on innovative solutions to strengthen Ghana's agricultural systems and sustainability agenda.

The panel discussion on "Engineering the Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture Value Chain" delivered a clear message: transforming Ghana's agriculture requires coordinated, engineering-driven solutions supported by policy reform and sustainable financing.

A central outcome was the recognition that limited access to finance remains the most critical barrier across the agricultural value chain. The panel called for innovative financing models and stronger public-private partnerships to unlock investment and enable farmers and agribusinesses to scale and adopt modern technologies.

The discussion also underscored the urgency of land tenure reform as a foundation for long-term agricultural investment. Without secure land rights, efforts to expand mechanisation, irrigation, and infrastructure will remain constrained.

Another key outcome was the acknowledgment that many engineering solutions already exist but are not widely adopted. The panel therefore emphasised the need to strengthen extension services, promote farmer-centred approaches, and ensure continuous technical support to drive sustainable adoption.

Addressing post-harvest losses emerged as a priority, with recommendations to invest in storage, transportation, and logistics systems to improve efficiency and reduce waste. The importance of reliable data systems particularly for rainfall monitoring and irrigation planning was also highlighted as critical for climate-resilient agriculture.

In addition, the panel stressed that mechanisation and modern technologies are essential to reducing the labour-intensive nature of farming and attracting youth into the sector.

The session concluded with a strong call for a holistic, systems-based approach that integrates engineering, finance, policy, and innovation to build a resilient, efficient, and market-driven agricultural sector in Ghana.

INSIGHTS FROM THE YOUTH IN ENGINEERING FORUM

REIMAGINING AGRICULTURE THROUGH THE MINDS OF YOUNG ENGINEERING PRACTITIONERS

Young Engineering Practitioners at the forefront of innovation and impact actively shaping conversations and driving solutions at the 56th AGM and Conference in Ho. The future of engineering is here, and it is bold, dynamic, and ready.

The future of agriculture in Ghana may not begin on the farm, but in the minds of young engineers ready to redefine it.

At the Youth in Engineering Forum of the Ghana Institution of Engineering Conference, ideas met purpose. Under the theme Advancing Food Security and Agriculture Using Technology, the conversation quickly moved from discussion to action.

Speakers from academia, industry, and practice agreed on one reality: agriculture is evolving, but not fast enough. Smart technologies drones, sensors, and digital monitoring systems exist, yet remain underutilized. Infrastructure gaps, post-harvest losses, and limited inclusion of youth and women continue to slow progress.

Leticia Effah Amanu, an independent reseacher challenged young engineers to design solutions that are simple, affordable, and practical for farmers. Ing Obinna Anthony Brown urged them to lead innovation and influence policy, while Ing Eric Asante highlighted the transformative power of data in improving productivity and decision-making.

The forum pointed to immediate opportunities smart irrigation, digital tracking tools, and improved storage and packaging systems to reduce losses. But technology alone is not enough. Stronger collaboration between academia, industry, and engineering institutions is essential to bridge the gap between knowledge and practice.

Equally critical is inclusion. Agriculture must become a space where young people, especially women, see opportunity and innovation.

A key outcome was the proposal to establish the Young Engineers for Smart Agriculture Network (YESAN) a platform to connect talent, ideas, and opportunities.

The message was clear: agriculture is no longer just about land and labour it is about technology, data, and vision. And a new generation of engineers is ready to lead.

INSIGHTS FROM THE CRAFTSMEN FORUM

GhIE INDUCTS 35 ENGINEERING CRAFTSMEN TO STRENGTHEN GHANA'S TECHNICAL WORKFORCE

Newly inducted craftsmen stand proudly alongside executives of GhIE at the vibrant Craftsmen Forum held on March 16, 2026, in Ho, a moment of growth, unity, and professional excellence.

GhIE inducted thirty-five practitioners into its Engineering Craftsmen class, marking a significant step toward strengthening Ghana's technical workforce and raising professional standards.

The ceremony, held on March 16, 2026, in Ho during the 56th AGM and Engineering Conference, recognised the inductees for meeting the academic and practical requirements under the Engineering Craftsmen Occupational Group. The initiative reinforces GhIE's commitment to integrating skilled artisans into the formal engineering profession.

GhIE President Ing Ludwig Annang Hesse urged the inductees to prioritise safety, embrace innovation, and commit to continuous learning, noting that craftsmen play a vital role in translating engineering ideas into practical solutions.

Chair of the Membership Committee, Ing Michael Ankamah Bekoe, highlighted that the induction aligns with the provisions of the Engineering Council Act 2011 (Act 819), which recognises Engineering Craftsmen as a key professional group.

How the Craftsmen Forum Redefined Engineering Collaboration at the GhIE's 56th Conference

At the 56th AGM and Conference, the Engineering Craftsmen Forum delivered a clear message: stronger collaboration between engineers and craftsmen is essential to advancing the profession.

The session highlighted a persistent gap in collaboration, limited certification opportunities, and inconsistent safety practices. Speakers emphasised the need for structured training, professional recognition, and closer integration of craftsmen into the engineering ecosystem.

Workplace safety, innovation, and entrepreneurship emerged as key priorities, alongside the importance of continuous skills development. The forum also called for greater gender inclusion and unity within the craftsmen community.

Ing President Ludwig Annang Hesse presenting certificates to newly inducted craftsmen at the forum

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

GhIE 56TH AGM SETS CLEAR STRATEGIC DIRECTION FOR THE INSTITUTION

Ing Ludwig Annang Hesse, President of the Ghana Institution of Engineering responding issues at the Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting of the Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE), chaired by Ing President Ludwig Annang Hesse, brought members together to review progress and set a clear direction for the Institution.

Key highlights included the President's mid-term review, showing steady implementation of the 2025–2027 agenda, and the Annual Management Report presented by Ing Dr. Enyonam Kpekpena, the Executive Director of GhIE which outlined achievements such as the induction of over 400 new members, digital transformation efforts, and the establishment of an Alternative Dispute Resolution Centre.

Financial performance and outlook were presented by Ing Dr. Patrick Bekoe, Vice President of GhIE, with a focus on improving revenue through stronger subscription compliance and diversified income streams.

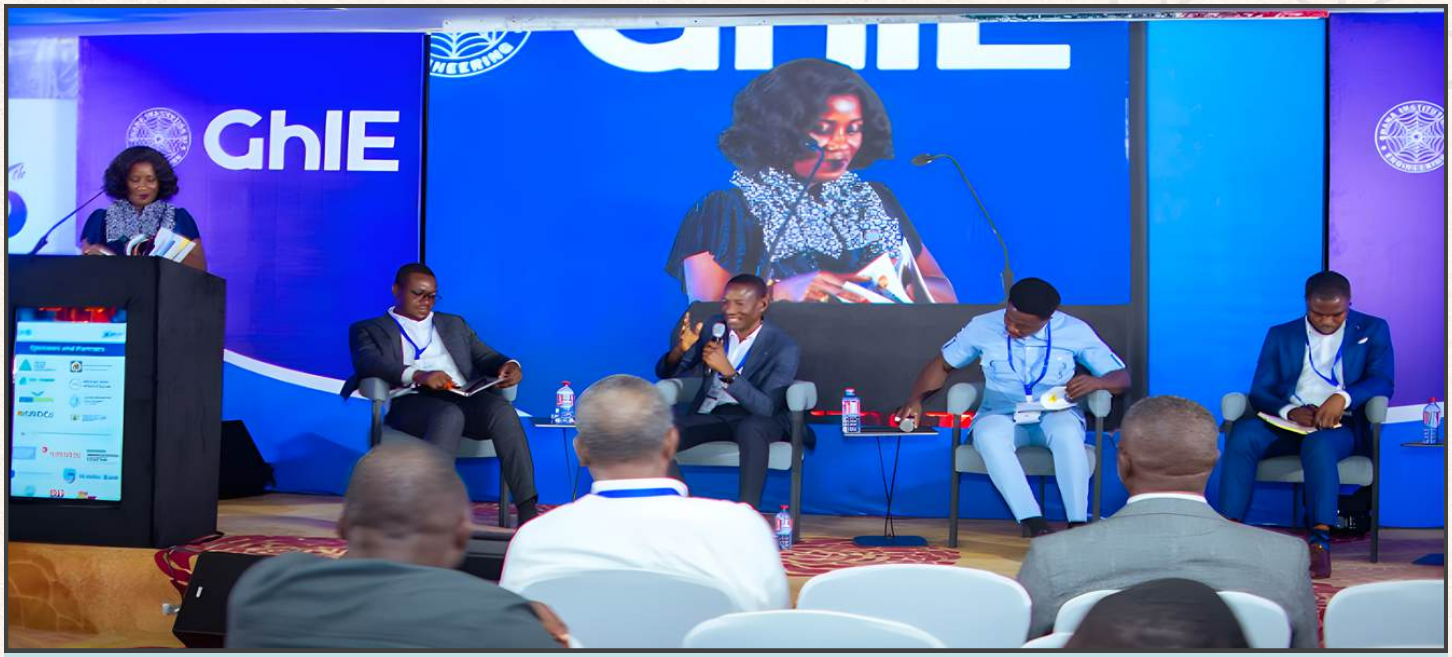
In a major step forward, members unanimously approved constitutional amendments, including the creation of a Research, Innovation and Excellence Committee to strengthen professional development and innovation.

The AGM concluded with active member engagement and a shared commitment to advancing engineering excellence and national development.

A vibrant cross-section of Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE) members actively engaging at the Annual General Meeting on March 19, 2026, at the Volta Serene Hotel, Ho, reflecting commitment, collaboration, and the collective drive to shape the future of engineering in Ghana.

ENGINEERING RESILIENCE IN AGRICULTURE

CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE SYSTEMS PANEL IDENTIFIES CRITICAL ACTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Experts lead a panel discussion on Climate-Smart Agriculture Systems during the conference, exploring innovative, resilient approaches to enhance productivity, sustainability, and climate adaptation in Ghana's agricultural sector.

The panel on Climate Smart Agriculture Systems underscored a critical message: engineering is central to building resilient and sustainable food systems in the face of climate change.

The session highlighted key challenges, including water scarcity, low adoption of innovative technologies, land-use conflicts, and gaps between research and practical implementation. Issues around integrating renewable energy into agriculture particularly maintaining grid stability were also raised.

A major outcome was the growing importance of agrivoltaics and renewable energy systems, which offer opportunities to improve productivity and optimise land use. The panel also emphasised data-driven agriculture, with smart irrigation and remote sensing enabling efficient water management and better decision-making.

In addition, the need for sustainable agro-infrastructure using low-carbon materials was highlighted, alongside innovations such as bio-stimulants and urban farming models to enhance food and nutrition security.

The session concluded with a strong call for integrated action, promoting technology adoption, investing in smart systems, and strengthening collaboration between engineers, researchers, and policymakers.

Ultimately, the discussion reaffirmed that engineering will drive the transition to climate-smart agriculture in Ghana.

GALLERY

A vibrant cross-section of engineers, industry leaders, and stakeholders engaged during the 56th AGM and Conference in Ho on March 17, 2026, driving conversations and solutions for a sustainable future.

President of the Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE) presents a donation in support of the Asogli Education Fund during the 56th Engineering Conference in Ho on March 16, 2026, reaffirming the Institution's commitment to education and community development.

GALLERY

A memorable celebration of Ing Dr. Kwame Boakye's 80th birthday (4th from right) during the 56th Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE) Conference, honoring his lifelong contributions and enduring legacy in the engineering profession.

Members of the Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE) embark on an awareness walk through the principal streets of Ho on March 16, 2026, promoting engineering's role in national development and community engagement.

GALLERY

Meaningful and insightful interactions from WinE members at the forum sparking ideas, sharing experiences, and strengthening a collective voice for women in engineering.

A moment of leadership and legacy: (3rd from left) Ing. Ludwig Annang Hesse, President of GhIE; (4th from left) President-Elect Ing. Sophia Tijani; and (5th from left) Immediate Past President Ing. Kwabena Bempong, share a proud group photograph after an insightful panel discussion, reflecting continuity, collaboration, and the future of engineering in Ghana.

GALLERY

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THANK YOU
The 56th Annual General Meeting and Conference was a defining moment, made possible by you.
We are deeply grateful for your support, participation, and commitment. Together, we are advancing innovation, strengthening capacity, and driving our shared vision forward.
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GHANA INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERING NEWSLETTER

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