

## PRESS RELEASE

### DATABANK FOUNDATION LAUNCHES READ AID LITERACY PROGRAM IN TAKORADI

Databank Foundation, the arm responsible for undertaking corporate social responsibility initiatives within the Databank Group, has launched the Databank Read Aid Literacy Program in Takoradi. The Program, which is an initiative aimed at contributing to improved learning outcomes at the basic level through reading, was launched on Wednesday, May 31, 2017 at the Sarah Sackey Anglican Primary School, Takoradi.

Speaking at the ceremony, the Programmes Manager of Databank Foundation, Ms. Pebbles Parkes, enumerated that the challenges facing public school education in Ghana are numerous. "Public schools in Ghana are faced with issues ranging from overcrowded classrooms to underpaid teachers and hungry students. These factors affect the learning and development processes of children in primary schools."

She further stated that the Foundation's decision to target public schools is grounded on an evidence based approach. "Focusing on a report on the findings of an early grade reading assessment in Ghana, we identified a great need to improve education through literacy. The report revealed that for the average 9 year old, 50% scored zero in their knowledge of sounds of alphabets, while nearly 40% of the pupils scored zero in English listening comprehension in the Greater Accra region. Not only can our children not read, but also nearly half of those enrolled in public schools do not understand the English language." According to Ms. Parkes, the need for improving the capacity of children in literacy is real. She urged individuals and organizations, big or small, to undertake similar practical and sustainable social interventions to boost the quality of education in Ghana. During the launch, primary 1 pupils of the Sarah Sackey Anglican Primary School were enrolled on the Databank Read Aid Literacy Program.

Read Aid is an initiative undertaken by staff of Databank and community volunteers. The Foundation's objective to improve literacy levels of children in Ghana continues to bring out Databank's values of leadership, excellence, humility and integrity.

Individuals who wish to volunteer for the Databank Read Aid Literacy Program either in Takoradi or in Accra, may do so by sending their CV's with a short message to [foundation@databankgroup.com](mailto:foundation@databankgroup.com).

For more information on the Databank Foundation, call +233 302 610610 or e-mail [foundation@databankgroup.com](mailto:foundation@databankgroup.com).

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## About Databank

Founded in April 1990, Databank's mission is to empower its customers to achieve financial independence by promoting financial literacy and offering a diverse range of investment products. To deliver on our mission, we provide innovative and responsive corporate finance, brokerage, fund management and research services to local and foreign individuals, multinational companies, pension trusts, institutions and portfolio investors for the ECOWAS sub-region. We also assist those who are looking for private equity financing through our private equity group. Databank currently has 14 branches across the country. The main branches are in Accra (Head office), Kumasi, Tema, Sunyani and Takoradi. There are also 9 partner-locations situated within GTBank branches in Accra, Ashaiman, Cape Coast, Tarkwa and Tamale.

For further information please visit [www.databankgroup.com](http://www.databankgroup.com)

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