
Utilizing Digital Technology and Network Analysis to Combat Disinformation in the 2024 Ghana Election

As Ghana prepares for its December 2024 presidential and parliamentary elections, the issue of disinformation continues to threaten the integrity of our democratic processes. The proliferation of digital and social media platforms has also amplified the spread of disinformation and biased reporting, making it increasingly challenging for voters to discern credible information from fake news. This issue, if not addressed will undermine our ability to make informed electoral choices.

In light of this, Penplusbytes through the Action for a Holistic Electoral Approach for Democracy (AHEAD) Africa Project, is implementing an innovative intervention to combat disinformation and strengthen democratic processes. This project, co-funded by the European Union, aims to combat disinformation and strengthen democratic processes across the continent. This initiative integrates the AHEAD framework to address the electoral cycle's critical phases comprising pre-election, election day, and post-election. At its core is the Disinformation Detection Platform (DDP), a cutting-edge tool designed to monitor and analyse disinformation in real-time, ensuring accurate reporting and promoting accountability throughout the electoral process.

This project is designed to foster effective partnerships with electoral management bodies (EMBs), CSOs, and media outlets, ensuring a coordinated effort to address electoral integrity issues and promote credible elections.

Objectives

The objectives of this project are:

- To track and analyse disinformation trends, delivering actionable insights to stakeholders for effectively countering false narratives.
- To enhance stakeholder collaboration, promoting a unified and strategic approach to addressing electoral challenges.
- To advocate for lasting reforms within Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs), focusing on institutionalizing media literacy initiatives (MIL) and improving transparency in election management processes.
- To empower voters with critical information evaluation skills, enabling them to resist disinformation and actively engage in democratic processes.