

# Govt increases cash grant for LEAP beneficiaries

BY VIVIAN ARTHUR

**T**HE government has increased cash grants for beneficiary households under the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) programme to 100 per cent effective today.

The new increment would now enable one-member household to receive GH¢256.00 bi-monthly from the GH¢128.00 previously received.

Two-member households would get GH¢304.00 from the previous GH¢152.00, three-member households would receive GH¢352.00 instead of the 176.00 previously and four and above member households would be entitled to GH¢424.00 from 212.00 previously.

The upward adjustment, being the 89th cycle (January and February 2024), would enable the beneficiaries to receive double the amount they were entitled to in June 2023, following a delay in grant payments.

As a result of the increase, the government had released over GH¢103 million to pay the 324,073 beneficiary households across the country.

Addressing the press in Accra last Friday, the Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Dakoa Newman, said the significant increase in financial support underscored the govern-

ment's commitment to poverty alleviation and improving the quality of life of the nation's most disadvantaged citizens.

"Between 2015 to 2023, the LEAP Grants paid to beneficiary

households bi-monthly was as follows: one-member household was entitled to GH¢64.00, two-member households were entitled to GH¢76.00, three-member households were entitled to GH¢88.00

and finally four and above member households were entitled to GH¢106.00," she added.

The minister indicated that the revised grant amounts was to ensure that the impact of the increased funds for the beneficiaries were felt without delay.

"This boost in funding is further expected to provide much-needed relief and support to thousands of families across the country, enabling them to meet their basic needs more effectively as well as invest in their future well-being," she stated.

This, the minister said, aligned with the LEAP programme's goal, which sought to reduce poverty by "smoothening consumption and promoting human capital development among Ghana's extremely poor and vulnerable households".

She assured of monitoring the exercise to ensure its smooth running and expressed gratitude to partner organisations, such as the World Bank, World Food Programme, and Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office, for their continuous support of the LEAP programme.



• The Minister, Dakoa Newman, addressing the press