Social enterprise activity in Ghana is growing. We set out to quantify social enterprise activity in Ghana. We surveyed 98 social enterprises and found:

**A young social enterprise scene:**
Ghanaian social enterprise has seen a spike in start-ups in the last three years, and leaders – as well as ventures – are predominantly young.

**Women and social enterprise:**
Nearly 40% of social enterprise leaders in Ghana are female – almost three times higher than the proportion of female senior managers in mainstream businesses. Female social enterprise leaders are more likely to focus on health objectives, to support beneficiaries in their local community, and to hire female staff.

**Social enterprise is having economic impact:**
The 98 social enterprises have created a total of 958 jobs (based on staff numbers in 2015), have impacted the lives of 103,148 beneficiaries and have generated a combined turnover of £1.4 million (almost 8 million cedis) in the last year.
Social enterprise is growing, but could grow more
Almost all social enterprises expect staff numbers to increase next year, having also increased over the last year. 98% expect their venture to grow, and 77% expect turnover to increase next year.

**GROWTH PLANS**
- Expand into new geographic areas: 61%
- Attract new customers or clients: 59%
- Attract investment to expand: 59%
- Increase sales with existing customers: 44%
- Win business as part of a consortium: 14%
- Other: 11%

**BARRIERS**
- Obtaining grant funding: 71%
- Cash flow: 34%
- Capital (debt/equity): 47%
- Understanding/awareness of social enterprise among banks and support organisations: 32%
- Lack of access to support and advisory services: 35%
- Shortage of technical skills: 26%

Social enterprises work in many sectors:
Education and agriculture are the most cited sectors which Ghanaian social enterprises work in, with education social enterprises being particularly dominant in Accra and agricultural social enterprises most common in the North.

**Almost 60% of social enterprises focus on creating employment opportunities as a main objective**

Based on the very small unrepresentative sampling process, there may be as many as 26,000 social enterprises currently operating in Ghana, with growth expected.

26,000 social enterprises in Ghana

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