

# Manual to check budget overruns in colleges of education developed

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THE Transforming Teacher Education and Learning (T-TEL) project has developed a standardised financial manual that will guide financial practices and prevent budget overruns in the country's colleges of education. It will also ensure proper financial management in those colleges.

As part of the project, finance officers from the beneficiary colleges, who were drawn from the Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Northern, Upper East and Upper West regions were also trained on how to raise funds internally aside from government's subvention.

The three-day financial management training programme also afforded the participants the opportunity to share their experiences and learn from each other.

The participants were also helped to streamline their procedures and operate within the confines of the financial law, as well as the Procurement Act (2003) to avoid dissipation of national resources.

A consultant to the Transforming Teacher Education and Learning (T-TEL) project, Mr Enock Avotri, said most of the public colleges of education lacked documented procedural manuals that should guide financial management in their institutions which if not checked, could trigger corruption.

He stated that it was for that reason it organised the training programme.

Mr Avotri also cautioned finance officers to be wary of the 'surcharge' clause in the Financial Act and avoid verbal agreement and communication in any financial transactions.

He added that producing receipts alone for money spent was not enough but rather all

expenditures must be 'activity-based' and ensure value for money.

## About T-TEL

T-TEL is a four-year Government of Ghana programme supported by the United Kingdom's (UK's) Department of International Development (DFID) and managed by Cambridge Education of UK.

It supports 40 public colleges of education on their path to becoming tertiary 'centres of excellence' and producing high quality teaching graduates ready to teach, inspire and educate Ghana's young people to lead the country's progress and prosperity.

Under the project, the colleges are expected to re-develop their financial manuals to conform to approved ones to ensure effective monitoring and auditing.

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