

Year of Return & Beyond the Return

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Ghana

Quality score: 57/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Ghana's 2019 Year of Return drew 200,000+ diaspora travelers and an est. \$1.9bn in tourism spending, granting 126 diaspora members citizenship — but Harvard research documents inflation and housing displacement as side effects of the ongoing 'Beyond the Return' programme.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability	2/3
Sustainability / continuity	1/3
Innovation	2/3
Inclusiveness / equity	1/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[Ghana Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture; Ghana Tourism Authority; Office of the President \(Diaspora Affairs\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[Travel Noire — 'Year Of Return' Activities Bring \\$1.9 Billion Into Ghana's Economy \(Dec 2019\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[HKS Student Policy Review — The Year of Return and the Unintended Consequences for Ghanaians \(Jan 2020\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[Global Voices — The African countries offering citizenship to diasporans \(2025\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

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