

## Request for a Sister City Relationship

Your request will be posted on our website and made available to Australian cities seeking an affiliation. As Sister Cities Australia is a volunteer organisation we do not have the resources to actively seek a sister city on your behalf but are more than happy to assist where possible.



### Introduce your city:

Name of city:	Kpando
State or province:	Volta Region
Country:	Ghana
Demographics:	The Municipality has a population of 62,240 with males constituting 48.21% whilst females form the remaining 51.79%. (Projected from the 2010 census)

### List your existing affiliations:

City name:	Jacksonville, Arkansas	Date of affiliation:	June 26, 2015
City name:		Date of affiliation:	
City name:		Date of affiliation:	
City name:		Date of affiliation:	

### Rate the importance of the following economic activities in your city from N/A, low, medium or high:

Agriculture:	high	Industry:	medium
Services:	low-medium	Technology:	low
Additional information:	Agricultural activities provide employment of approximately 32.3 % of the active population which is engaged either directly or indirectly in these activities. The hospitality industry has improved with the development of guest houses and hotels. Kpando Municipality also have the potential for the development of the paint industry as a result of the presence of a huge kaolin deposit of white clay, yellow, pink and yellowish brown mudstone with a life capacity of 800 years. Other potential areas of investment in the Municipality include irrigation as a result of the presence of the Volta Lake which is the second largest man-made lakes in the world and River Dayi, tourism industry, fish farming and agriculture among others.		

## Background on your city:

### Local cultural and education facilities:

The inhabitants of the Kpando Municipality are mainly Ewes who migrated from Notsie in present day Republic of Togo in the 17th century in escape from the tyrannical rule of the then King Agorkoli. People of the Municipality are homogenous in terms of the Ewe culture and language. Our arts and cultural gallery contains most artifacts from the Municipality and beyond.

Being an indigenous population, various communities in the Kpando Municipality celebrate traditional festivals at specific times throughout the year. The most famous festivals are the Yam, Danyigbakaka and Sasaduza. These festivals are not only celebrated to display the rich Ewe traditions and culture but also to unite the three traditional areas of the Municipality namely (Gbefi, Sovie and Akpini) through music and dance such as the famous, traditional Kpando 'Borborbor' Dance which originated from Kpando. Another purpose for the celebration of these festivals is to promote development in the various communities.

Furthermore, Borborbor troupes can be found in most communities in the Municipality. We are proud to have arts and cultural troupes in most of our schools which perform during all cultural occasions.

Kpando has two large markets which dated back to over 200 years. One is situated right in the heart of Kpando. The Kpando Market stretches over 1.5 hectares of land. It operates as a daily market though every fourth day is a market day which is organized by the Queen Mother of the market who also ensures the smooth operation of the market. The second market is located at Torkor. Torkor serves as fishing, marketing and commercial town. Its market maintains its vibrancy as a result of links with the Eastern Region via the Volta Lake. A pontoon and several wooden boats or canoes link Torkor with the Eastern Region of Ghana. This is also used by farmers from the mainland to barter their goods such as corn or mangoes for fish.

In terms of educational facilities, school children of the Kpando Municipality have the choice of studying through a public or private school system. Both offers education from the basic level through junior high school to senior high school levels, however the public system also has two technical institutes and one community inclusive special school. Meanwhile, a tertiary institution to specialize in the training of health professionals such as nurses is going through accreditation and it is expected to start operation soon.

### Historical background:

The German administered Kpando as a station under the German Togoland Colony. The remains dat Kpando Todzi to this date. During the post-colonial government the Kpando Todzi residences were used by officials until the 1990s when they were closed down except for the Forts which is used to house Prison inmates till date. Besides, Kpando was also used as a transit route for slaves captured from the Salaga market in Northern Ghana during the era of slavery.

### International service clubs:

Heart of Lions Kpando is our football club with international players from Liberia and Togo in the past. The games are played in a Stadium which with a sitting capacity of 5000. The average age of our players are around 27. As much as we miss some of our players who are now representing other countries we are very proud of them.

**Data to help match with a sister city:**

Desired characteristics of a sister city:

- Interest in encouraging and deepening the Ghanaian/Australian relations both existing and new ones in order to promote social relationships and sharing of traditions, history, arts and culture, and to raise awareness of our youth of the value of cultures and traditions through both internet communication and cultural exchange programs.
- Openness to indigenous agricultural techniques combined with modern technology to promote sustainable agricultural practices, preservation/restoration of water bodies and wetlands. The transfer of these technologies relates to renewable energy resources, recycling, manufacturing, water supply, sanitation, reforestation as well as environmental education for the youth in both cities
- Curiosity for mutual learning of community development practices through the sharing of ideas and research in order to promote community priorities relevant to both cities so the wider cross section of citizens can benefit and flourish
- Responsiveness or awareness of the inclusion of the aging population, mentally and physically challenged, and vulnerable women and children in public health to promote higher quality of life for these target groups in both cities
- Responsiveness or awareness of disability at schools, health care, infrastructure and in community development
- High interest in ecotourism to promote investment and economic opportunities as well as to create jobs with an aim to reduce urban migration from rural villages
- Openness to technical innovation with a focus on creating opportunities for the next generation through which we engage them in finding solutions for local challenges similar in both cities
- Interest in the promotion of sports through exchanges related to team and coaching for the youth. As mentioned above Kpando is well-known for its professional football, however it is less well-known for its professional handball.

Preference for location: none

Is there an official sister city committee recognised by Council in your city: no

**Please rank interest in the following with regards to starting a new affiliation from low, medium or high:**

Arts and Culture:	high	Economic development:	high
Education:	high	Municipal cooperation:	high
Sport and recreation:	high	Technology:	high
Youth:	high		

**Your contact details:**

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