

the new
ghanaian



KAY CODJOE
WRITES

THE COCOBOD FILES:

How Billions Were Committed, Delivery Fell Behind,
and a System Was Left Exposed (2017 to 2025)

GH¢26.5bn Roads Awarded. Only GH¢5.4bn Paid. Where Did the Rest Go?

GH¢16.18bn Debt Hanging Over the Sector – Who Created This Burden?

GH¢7.7bn in Cocoa Bonds – A Bill Pushed Into the Future

Jute Sack Procurement Under Question – How Were These Contracts
Awarded?

200,000+ Jute Sacks Uncleared – Contracts Signed, Delivery Missing

A 7-PART INVESTIGATION
STARTS APRIL 10

The Ledger of Truth – Based on Civic Intelligence



The cameras arrived before the questions did.

A convoy entered the cocoa farms. Boots met red earth. Hands were shaken. Cocoa pods were opened. The visit was calm and well documented. Among those present were Dennis Miracles Aboagye and Frank Annoh-Dompreh, alongside other members of the NPP Minority caucus. They engaged farmers and listened.

It was a necessary visit, but it did not capture the full picture.

Because while attention was on the farms, another part of the story sits in records. Contracts, payments, and financial commitments have shaped the current position of the Ghana Cocoa Board over time. That is where the deeper questions begin.

The reactions from farmers were real. They spoke with frustration built over seasons. Some struggled to speak. One said directly, “Mahama, mo de yɛn ka.” The government owes us. The concerns were genuine, but the setting was organised. The grievances were expressed within a political moment, and that shaped how they were directed.

This context matters.

The challenges facing cocoa farmers did not begin recently. They developed over time through a series of decisions and financial commitments. These are not always visible in the field. What farmers see are outcomes. Delays. Uncertainty. Questions about payments. That is what they respond to.

We would recall that the issue had already moved beyond the farms. During the State of the Nation Address 2026, cocoa pods were presented in Parliament as a symbol of concern, drawing attention but also raising questions about responsibility in a system shaped over time.

What is emerging is not a single failure, but a pattern. Commitments expanded. Obligations accumulated. Over time, these have created pressure within the system. Farmers feel that pressure first.

This is where the conversation must shift.

From commentary to examination.

Not speculation. Not partisan exchange.

Examination.

Using civic intelligence, this series will review the financial, procurement, and operational records of COCOBOD. The aim is to move from general concern to specific understanding. The data already suggests that key commitments and exposures were built over a defined period, particularly between 2017 and early 2025.

This is not an accusation.

It is a conclusion grounded in evidence.

Because numbers do not lie.

Each part will present the data, interpret the patterns, and ask clear questions about approvals, safeguards, and outcomes.

Because in public finance, clarity matters.

And that process begins now.

By: Kay Codjoe