

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



**SEND
GHANA**

**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

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INTRODUCTION

With this 2022 annual report, we are bringing to you, our stakeholders and principals, the different transformative changes accomplished in the lives of poor and underprivileged Ghanaians amidst an unprecedented economic crisis. Ghana's post-COVID-19 recovery was disrupted by the worsened debt crisis, which, in turn, nearly shut down most productive sectors of the national economy. The annual average inflation rate of 32% in 2022 imposed harsh living conditions on most Ghanaians, especially our principals/beneficiaries.

In this context, the significance of the pressure exerted by our pro-poor advocacy activities on the government, public service providers, and parliament, as well as livelihood projects for small-scale food crop farmers in 2022 cannot be overemphasised. The voice of SEND and its allies on policy platforms, whether it's on the budget, health, education, agriculture, or social protection, as told in this annual report, was a potent and reliable source of hope and inspiration for poor Ghanaians.

Overall, SEND has implemented projects in five regions and many districts across Ghana. Under the Grassroots Economic Literacy and Advocacy Programme (GELAP), 16 projects were executed, while the Livelihood, Food, and Nutrition Security Program (LFNSP) implemented only one project. In 2022, this livelihood project was in its fourth year of implementation, covering four districts, reaching 130 communities, and benefiting 30,000 small-scale food crop farmers. Climate change mitigation and gender equity promotion remain cross-cutting interventions in both programs.

GELAP embarked on several innovative advocacy initiatives. The Epidemic Preparedness Advocacy partnership was expanded to include the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Ghana Association of Laboratory Scientists, and the National Centre for Coordination of Early Warning and Response Mechanism. This increased membership of the Epidemic Preparedness Coalition which enabled the project to collect and present 567 signatures of citizens to Jubilee House (the seat of Ghana's Presidency), demanding that the government establish and adequately resource the Public Health Emergency Fund (PHEF).

Additionally, FAIR for All was started using a human rights approach to empower farmers to promote the economic well-being of small-scale cocoa farmers. The execution of this project has equipped farmers with knowledge, skills, and advocacy platforms to defend the human rights, especially of women and children

in the Cocoa sector. Also, SEND's Gender Model Family (GMF) approach was mainstreamed into all projects to bring about increased gender equity promotion and the empowerment of women and adolescent girls.

Meanwhile, through the LFNS program, climate change-sensitive farming practices were strengthened, benefiting thousands of small-scale farmers, including women. Short-maturing and drought-resistant seeds of maize, soya bean, and groundnuts were disseminated to over 30,000 small farmers in the operational communities of the Nutrient Stewardship Project (4R).

SEND's management is, therefore, most indebted to our donors (e.g., UNICEF, Oxfam, INKOTA, and Global Health Advocacy Incubator), implementing partners (Metropolitans, Metropolis, and District assemblies, Ministries, Departments, Agencies (MMDA), District Citizen Monitoring Committee (DCMC), Focal NGOs, and media) without whose financial and technical support the successes shared in this report would not have been possible. Thank you for your unwavering support, and we look forward to another year of making a lasting impact in the lives of poor Ghanaians.

OUR BOARD MEMBERS



Janet Mohammed
Chairperson



Siapha Kamara
CEO



Rev. Moses Bakar
Member



Al-Hassan Y. Seini
Member



Justina Anglaare
Member



Emmanuel Darko
Member

OUR DONORS AND IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

For the year under review, we maintained and strengthened our partnership with our generous donors and implementing partners whose continuous support is the bedrock of our successes. Furthermore, we forged new alliances with several other partners whose benevolent grants aided us in championing worthy causes. Our funders and implementing partners are the wind in our sails propelling us to drive positive changes in communities across Ghana. To this end, in 2022, we successfully executed 16 projects in the areas of health, agriculture, and governance that positively impacted the lives of numerous beneficiaries in various districts throughout Ghana. Our resolve to contribute to relevant people-centred policies remains unchanged. Our advocacy efforts were also felt at the national and regional level where we engaged duty bearers and beneficiaries alike towards contributing to the development agenda of Ghana through policy dialogues and stakeholder engagements on issues of national interest.





Our Project And How They Contribute To The SDGs

We have remained steadfast in our commitment to helping Ghana deliver and attain the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets towards transformative economic growth and a more equal society. Our interventions were specifically geared towards alleviating poverty (Goal 1), promoting sustainable agricultural practices (Goal 2), advocating for the enjoyment of good health for all (Goal 3) advancing the rights of women (Goal 5), and enhancing the quality of life of our beneficiaries. Our number one priority remained to campaign for the needs of minority groups and vulnerable members of our society such as women, children, and Persons Living with Disabilities, we are inspired by the SDG mantra of leaving no one behind and as such, we continue to soldier on influencing policies and impacting lives with our innovative interventions. Hence, in 2022, the amalgamation of all our implemented interventions contributed to the following SDG targets.



Promoting Agricultural Sustainability, Battling Food Insecurity and Championing Climate Crisis (Goal 2 Zero Hunger and Goal 13 Climate Action)

Food insecurity, climate change, and sustainable agriculture remain pressing challenges to Ghana's vulnerable groups including small-scale food crop farmers who comprise 40 % of the country's population. In 2022 SEND Ghana strategically directed its projects in the agricultural sector to address food insecurity, climate change and related issues. During the past year, we executed three interventions aimed at aiding farmers and other stakeholders in the agricultural sector to tackle these concerns.

The 4R Nutrient Stewardship Programme sought to improve the socio-economic welfare of women through sustainable agriculture, Cocoa Advocacy strengthened farmer relationships with other stakeholders in the Agric sector, GROW allowed farmers to make their voices heard through budget tracking advocacy, and Fair for All bridged the gap between various stakeholders in the cocoa sector towards sustainability and economic justice.

4R Nutrient Stewardship Program (4R-NSP)

This is a 5-and-a-half-year project (2019- 2024) funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC). The main goal of the 4R-NSP is to improve the socio-economic well-being and resilience of smallholder farmers, particularly women through improving agricultural productivity and sustainability. SEND GHANA, in partnership with Cooperative Development Foundation, Canada (CDF), Fertilizer Canada, African Plant Nutrition Institute, and Savannah Agricultural Research Institute (SARI), is implementing this project in 130 communities across four (4) districts: East Gonja, Nanumba North, Nanumba South, and Kpandai districts. Beneficiaries comprising mostly women through the 4R project were trained on agronomic best practices such as planting distance and proper application of pre-emergence agrochemicals to control weeds. In addition, members of cooperatives had access to tractor services, agrochemicals, seed, fertilizer, and funding for the production year. In addition, the project through its Community Volunteer Agricultural Extension Agents (CVAEA) developed and distributed quality seeds to women farmers to increase their yield. These sustainable agricultural practices and interventions contributed to bountiful harvests for many beneficiaries of the project and by extension increased food production for their communities. Popular northern staples such as groundnuts

which have been on a decline for the past 30 years in East Gonja have seen an increase in yield after farmers in the districts applied the 4R principles. Some successes chalked under the project include:

- Improved cooperative members' access to tractor services, agrochemicals, seed, fertilizer, and finance for the 2022 production season.
- **120** primary cooperatives and **4** zonal cooperatives obtained certificates from the Department of Cooperatives.
- Expertise of 4 cooperative managers and 130 cooperative secretaries enhanced in record-keeping.
- Elevated the proficiency and skills of 650 cooperative leaders' governance of their cooperatives.
- **4** Zonal Annual General Meetings (AGMs) were held to ratify **5** key resolutions (payment of membership dues, establishment of group farms, attendance to meetings, concurrent meeting times for VSLAs and admission of new members).



CVAEs during a planing meeting and refresher training on 4R principles.



CVAEs during a planing meeting and refresher training on 4R principles.

In Kpandai and Nanumba districts, beneficiaries experienced significant yield increases in maize production through the implementation of 4R interventions. The training and knowledge acquired from the 4R project have equipped them with the technical expertise to cultivate abundant food, benefiting both their families and communities.



A project officer engaging farmers during a groundnuts brown field day at Moba in Nanumba South District.



Dry season garden beneficiaries at Lungni in Nanumba South district happily harvesting their produce.



“I have been farming on this land for many years, but my highest yield was 1 bag. I’m very happy that through the 4R I have been able to get 4 bags this year from my half acre. I will continue to adopt what the project is teaching. I will use some of my harvest for our household consumption and sell some for my children school needs.”

Madam Ubanyanla



“My business is doing well. I thank the 4R project for helping me to achieve my objective. I make an average of Ghc550.00 profit every month”

Olu Michael Lessini

Cocoa Advocacy

Funded by INKOTA, this three-year project, which concluded in 2022, had the overarching objective of promoting the well-being of cocoa farmers through sustainable cocoa production. Its implementation resulted in the establishment of Ghana’s first Civil Society Organization (CSO) advocacy platform for cocoa, which now comprises over 50 members, including journalists. Importantly, the project also enhanced networking among German, Ghanaian, and Ivorian CSOs operating in the cocoa sector.


Towards this end, the project partnered with local radio stations to sensitize farmers on key issues in the cocoa sector such as Living Income Differential, deforestation, and human rights issues which over the years have hindered growth in the cocoa sector. Here are a few activities implemented for the year under review.

- Created an avenue for platform members to share organizational updates and identify areas of synergy and future collaboration. In addition, the platform made known its position on Living Income Differential (LID), child labor, and the EU Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains.
- Built the capacity of **62** farmers and media persons in Central and Eastern regions on cocoa price policy, Living Income Differential, and the EU Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains.

- Developed an advocacy plan to guide the advocacy work of farmers and the media in the Eastern and Central regions.
- Sensitized farmers on the LID policy, farmgate price setting and EU Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains.

GROW

Funded by OXFAM, the main objective of the GROW project is to promote economic justice, food security and improved agricultural governance through budget tracking as well as promotion of climate change adaptation strategies. Towards this end we created a platform for smallholder farmers to contribute to the 2023 agricultural sector budget formulation, highlighting issues bothering on climate change and agriculture in general. In addition, we also engaged key national and local level stakeholders on the need to prioritize climate change adaptation financing. A dialogue was organized in two communities in the Northern Region (Savulugu) and Ashanti Region (Kumasi) to empower smallholder farmers to influence policy decisions and financing relating to climate change. They were further given the platform to make input into the 2022 National Budget and Economic Statement. Key achievements under this project include.

- **4/8** *inputs submitted to the MoF were reflected in the 2023 National Budget Statement.*
-  *Provided smallholder farmers with information on available climate change funds to inform proposals aimed at influencing climate change adaptation and mitigation measures in Ghana.*

Fair for All

As a new addition to our other initiatives contributing to reforms and improvement in the Agric and natural resource sectors, the Fair for All project is advocating and creating an inclusive and sustainable trade in the cocoa and extractive resources value chain. The five-year project which began in 2021 is being implemented in 5 districts: Birim North, Birim South, Birim Central(Eastern Region) , and Twifo Atti Morkwa and Twifo Heman in the (Central region). In the first year of the project, we undertook the following initiatives to raise the awareness of farmers, especially women farmers on their rights and inclusive business practices, and environmental policies.

- **24** participants representing community members and cocoa companies

attended a forum in Twifo Praso and Akim Oda. The primary aim of the forum was to establish a collaborative platform dedicated to addressing development challenges facing community members and cocoa farmers in particular. At the end of each forum they are agreed to co-create community development agreements.

- **16** Civil Society Organizations and women groups in Winneba sensitized to identify alternative business practices and co-create guidelines for inclusive business practices in the cocoa value chains.
- **8000** citizens in seven cocoa-growing communities and members of the Chocolate Network in the Birim (Eastern region) and Twifo (Central region) districts were sensitized on their rights to demand and advocate for coherent national business, human rights and environmental policies.



Enhancing Social Protection Interventions and Promoting Gender Equality (SDG Goal 1.3 No Poverty and Goal 5 Gender Equality)

Our focus under these projects was to provide the platform for our beneficiaries to contribute to the expediency and efficiency of government policies in their districts, enhance social protection delivery in Ghana, and break toxic patriarchal practices hindering women's economic growth.

Social Protection

Again in 2022, we advocated for improved social protection interventions for beneficiaries who rely on such support for their daily well-being, especially, our core constituents who are economically disadvantaged and live in hard-to-reach areas. Our goal is to ensure they have access to improved essential services such as healthcare, clean water, quality education, livelihood empowerment benefits, and poverty alleviation initiatives. For this reason, we received immense support from UNICEF to draw the government's attention to shortcomings in social protection-oriented initiatives such as Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP), National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS), Ghana School Feeding Program, and Capitation Grants. In addition, we gathered evidence to drive change in these policies to meet the expectations of those who benefit and rely on them. Here are a few of the activities we undertook for the year under review.

- **53** stakeholders, (33 males, 20 females) including 8 members of Parliament participated in round table discussion on social sector financing in Ghana
- Issued a press statement to commemorate the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. The statement highlighted funding gaps for social protection, and the growing levels of inequality occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic. It urged the government to among others increase investment in child protection and welfare programmes and ensure timely releases of budgets for the smooth implementation of relevant



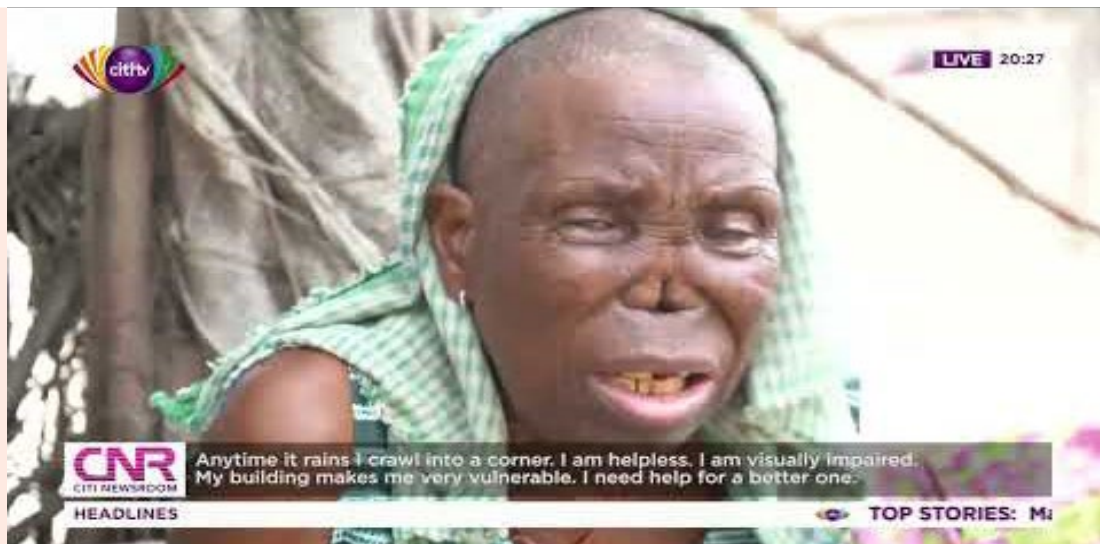
Hon. Betty Mensah, MP for Afram Plains North contributing to the discussions at the National Dialogue on the 2023 budget analysis.

child protection policies. It was published widely by key media houses such as the Daily Graphic, Joynews, and Ghanaweb.

- Analyzed the 2023 Budget Statement and Economic Policy, highlighting funding gaps for social protection programme delivery and produced a policy brief to be used for further engagement with policymakers.
- Held a national dialogue to disseminate findings from the analysis of the 2023 budget statement and economic policy. The dialogue brought together key stakeholders including members of parliament and highlighted the key findings and gaps in the social sector-related budget analysis.
- **35** media personnels' capacity were built on social protection delivery. Additionally, we supported journalists in producing video documentaries and articles on the status of social protection (SP) programs, covering the Livelihood Empowerment Program (LEAP), Capitation Grant, National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS), and Ghana School Feeding Program (GSFP).

<https://www.facebook.com/kingsley.adom/videos/1266222734276940/?mibextid=v7YzmG>

<https://youtu.be/J-jcPHmBuX4>





Staff of SEND UNICEF, and MoGCSP pictured with the Journalists who were trained on social protection delivery in Ghana.

Women's Economic Advancement for Collective Transformation (WEACT)

Our support for the empowerment of women remains resolute particularly economically vulnerable women. Farm families in selected districts in the northern region benefited from the Gender Model family program which seeks to address unequal power relations between men and women as well as harmful gender norms. In addition, reduce the time tax and poverty of women who often are saddled with unpaid domestic activities of their families. The knowledge and skill of these families were improved to recognize, reduce, and redistribute unpaid work among men and women, freeing time for women to actively participate in economic activities. They were further trained to appreciate positive masculinity practices while demystifying toxic notions that men do not belong in the kitchen. Relationships between men and women in these families have been enhanced resulting in peaceful co-existence and gender equity among families.

A total of **1,284** people benefited from our gender equity interventions geared at increasing the participation of women in the Cocoa and Shea value chain in economic activities outside of their domestic duties. The WEACT which is a five-

year project under the Innovations for Women's Economic Empowerment in Ghana (IWEEG) Program, sponsored by Global Affairs Canada (GAC), is implementing the Gender Model Family (GMF) towards the eradication of time poverty of women caused by harmful patriarchal beliefs. The core objective of this project is to enhance the economic empowerment and well-being of women in the shea and cocoa value chains. It is being implemented in partnership with Friends of the Nation (FoN), Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF), TungTeiya Women's Association, Shea Network, NORSAAC and Viamo in 9 districts (Savelugu, Mion, West Gonja, Garu, Sissala West, Amenfi West, Aowin, Suaman, Sefwi-Wiawso). This project chalked the following successes.



Improved capacities for household members to recognize, reduce and redistribute unpaid work, freeing time for women to actively participate in economic activities.



Demystified toxic masculine notions surrounding domestic and household chores.



Improved capacities of targeted beneficiaries on the knowledge and understanding of gender equality issues in their communities.



Addressed negative impacts of women's time poverty, and unfair distribution of unpaid work through peaceful conflict resolution.



*Cooking competition in Dadieso, Suaman District
Photo credit: Shadrack Asiedu-Kwarteng, FoN.*



Participants in a group photo during a Gender Model Family (GMF) summit.





Promoting Effective, Strong, And Transparent Institutions (Goal 16 -Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions)

Volunteers Engaged in Gender Responsive Technical Solutions (VETS) Project

The VETS project through the GMF program has also contributed to directly improving the socioeconomic well-being of the poorest, and most marginalized people, particularly women and girls. The seven (7) year project which is operational in 6 districts (Savelugu, Tamale Metro, Yendi, Gushiegu, Zabzugu and Chereponi) in the Northern Region is eroding negative gender norms and by building the capacities of women in animal husbandry, particularly integrated animal health systems. Key achievements under this project are

- Empowered women to break free from societal constraints and actively participate in traditionally male-dominated economic sectors like livestock.
- **864** families were sensitized using the GMF on the need to redistribute household roles and responsibilities among members of a family to reduce the domestic burden on women to engage in economically viable activities.
- **36** communities now practice improved livestock husbandry (beneficiaries now vaccinate their animals resulting in healthy vaccination and treatment regime for the animals within all livestock yield).
- Beneficiaries gained valuable insights into innovative techniques for feeding and housing livestock, effectively reducing the mortality rate of newborn animals.



Review meeting with Gender Mentors in Yendi. Photo credit: Jamilatu Zakaria SEND

Monitoring for Financial Savings

The Monitoring for Financial Savings project stands out for its innovative use of digital technology to empower citizens and assembly officials, fostering collaboration in enhancing accountability and transparency, ultimately optimizing the value for money during the construction of critical infrastructure for health, education, water, sanitation, and healthcare.

This initiative entails the active involvement of members from the citizen monitoring committees and officials representing five district assemblies in the Northern and Savannah regions, namely Yendi, Tolon, Savelugu, Tamale, Metro, and West Gonja, in district project tracking. Their role includes vigilant project monitoring and the utilization of technology to report issues that impact the progress of projects within their respective districts. They monitor and utilize the M4FS digital platform dubbed Development Check developed by SEND's UK-based partner, Integrity Initiative, to closely report the progress of infrastructural projects. More significantly, this digital platform is designed to assist citizens in effectively reporting and summarizing ongoing project information following their monitoring efforts. They subsequently use this information to facilitate dialogues with their assembly officials, enabling them to collaboratively devise solutions to promptly overcome any obstacles that hinder the effective execution of various infrastructure projects.

Guided by this approach, the project achieved the following results in 2022.

- **40** citizens were empowered to monitor infrastructure projects in five districts and used the findings to engage local government authorities.
- **92.5%** of all problems identified by monitors from the tracking of 15 projects were fixed by 2022 December bearers.
- **6,000** citizens in the 5-project reached with information under 'Ask the Community'.
- **90%** level of awareness of infrastructural projects among community members as opposed to 50% in December 2021



Focal Person and Monitoring groups in Talon Districts interacting with traditional authorities in Talon during an engagement meeting.



The Coordinating Director, Tamale Metropolitan Assembly responding to monitoring findings during a feedback meeting with duty-bearer, April 2022. Photo credit: Jonathan Dery



The Coordinating Director, Tamale Metropolitan Assembly responding to monitoring findings during a feedback meeting with duty-bearer, April 2022. Photo credit: Jonathan Dery



The Coordinating Director, Tamale Metropolitan Assembly responding to monitoring findings during a feedback meeting with duty-bearer, April 2022. Photo credit: Jonathan Dery



Strengthening Health Systems, Improving Sexual Reproductive Health For Young People and Advocating for Public Health Emergency Funding.

In 2022, we commenced the implementation of three health projects namely, Immunization Budget Tracking, Monitoring Compliance of Ghana's National Deployment and Vaccination Plan (NDVP) And Citizens Covid 19 Experience, and Power to Choose (P2C), in addition, to an already existing one (Epidemic Preparedness Financing and Response) we have been implementing for the past two years. Our Health projects for the reporting year sought to achieve three pivotal goals.



Empower young people to take charge of their sexual reproductive health rights through research and advocacy.



Get the government of Ghana to establish a public health emergency fund to finance disease outbreaks.



Track immunization budgeting at the district and the National level.

We are committed to ensuring that citizens everywhere in the country regardless of their location can access quality healthcare. Hence, we worked tirelessly to advocate for strengthened healthcare systems and delivery for the benefit of fellow Ghanaians.

Epidemic Preparedness Financing and Response

This project began in 2021 and was initiated as a direct response to the global outbreak and spread of COVID-19 in 2020. It was instituted against the backdrop of inspiring countries such as Ghana to put in place health structures towards preparing adequately for future disease outbreaks.

The overarching objective of the Epidemic Preparedness Finance and Response (EPFR) project seeks to influence the fiscal space toward increased domestic investments in Epidemic Preparedness (EP) at the national and district levels. The Government of Ghana in this regard is expected to create dedicated funding to be used to finance healthcare needs such as training of human resources, local manufacturing of vaccines, risk communication, purchase of medical logistics, and the construction infrastructure in preparedness against pandemics. Major achievements chalked by the project in 2022 include

- **10** journalists and 12 FNGOs were recognized for their efforts in drawing attention to disease outbreaks and public health emergencies through their stories and journalistic activities. Awards were presented across various categories and the top honoree received a cash prize of 5,000 Ghana cedis.”
- Increased partnership with state and non-state institutions to strengthen the advocacy for the Public Health Emergency Fund (PHEF). They included the National Centre for Coordination of Early Warning and Response Mechanism, the Ghana Academy of Art and Sciences, the Ghana Association of Public Health Technical Officers (GAPTHO), the Ghana Association of Medical Laboratory Scientists (GAMLS), CSOs, and the media (community radios and Journalist)
- The Ministry of Health invited SEND Ghana to assist in validating the Health Security Plan. We received this invitation in recognition of our extensive advocacy work on epidemic preparedness financing and response, both at the national and district levels. Furthermore, the Ministry of Finance requested us to submit a proposal on the Public Health Emergency Fund following the publication of a petition in the Daily Graphic advocating for its establishment.
- Worked with Champions through community durbars and the media to create and disseminate messages on COVID-19 vaccination in the public space. These sensitization exercises helped to raise awareness on the relevance of financing epidemic preparedness at national and district levels. Also, the need to incorporate EPR in the Medium-Term Development Plan and Annual Action Plans. As a result of the sensitization, some districts such as Tema, Lower Manya Krobo, and Birim South saw behavioral changes towards COVID-19 vaccination as they recorded increased turnout for vaccination and reductions in infections due to the sensitization. Increases in turnout were between 60% in AMA and over 500% in Birim South.



Awardees with the CEO of SEND West Africa, R-L Siapha Kamara (in Smock) and Country representative of GHAI, Stephen Atasige (in yellow). In between the two gentlemen is the best online report winner and overall best winner (in red), Linda Naa Deide Aryeetey of GNA

Power to Choose (P2C)

With funding support from Oxfam, we commenced a 7-year sexual reproductive health right-based project which seeks to increase the enjoyment of health—related rights, specifically, Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) by Young Women and Adolescent Girls in Ghana. The intervention aims at reaching adolescent girls and young women, as well as boys, aged between 10 to 24 years old, who live in vulnerable conditions and experience marginalization. Consequently, P2C aims to create enabling, safe and creative spaces for the target groups. In addition, build their capacity in research and advocacy while supporting them to openly, freely, and effectively use their energy and skills to advocate and promote efficient and effective SRHR delivery in Ghana. P2C is operational in 8 districts across 5 regions: Ashaiman, Cape Coast municipal, Awutu Senya (Kasoa), Sene East, Techiman, Sagnarigu, Savelugu, and Walewale. Below are key activities undertaken for the accounting year.

- **31** young people (Males 10, females 21) from the Southern, Middle, and Northern belts were mobilized to collect and submit inputs to influence the 2023 budget on SRHR.

- We developed a research, advocacy and influencing manual to build and enhance the capacity of adolescents and young women in research and advocacy while supporting them to openly, freely, and effectively use their energy and skills to advocate and promote efficient and effective SRHR delivery in Ghana.
- Again, we analyzed the national budget focusing on SRHR financing following the presentation of the 2023 Budget Statement & Economic Statement.



Adolescent girl making SRHR input into the 2023 budget in Tamale

Immunization Budget Tracking Advocacy

Over the years, we have remained determined to inspire credibility and integrity in the execution of our national and district budgets and 2022 was no different. Budget advocacy remains one of the efficient ways through which we continue to drive and influence positive changes in policies at the national and district levels towards getting the government of Ghana to prioritize the needs of citizens based on what matters most. For the reporting year, we secured funding support from the International Partnership (IBP) and partnered with Hope for Future Generation (HFFG) to monitor immunization budget execution from October 2018 to December 2023 at the National level and in 5 districts. Our findings point to the fact that the government needs to do more when it comes to immunization, especially in the areas of adequate allocation and timely release of funds.

Monitoring Compliance of Ghana's National Deployment and Vaccination Plan (Ndvp) And Citizens Covid 19 Experience

In 2020, with the outbreak of COVID-19, various remedies emerged, including the deployment of vaccines aimed at saving lives and reducing fatalities in 2022. Nationwide vaccination centers were established to ensure that citizens received vaccines. However, the government of Ghana's vaccination initiative, aimed at vaccinating 22.9 million Ghanaians, faced several challenges that threatened to diminish the citizen's experience.

To address these challenges, in 2022, we collaborated with the PTF to monitor and assess compliance with Ghana's National Deployment and Vaccination Plan (NDVP) and the overall COVID-19 vaccination experience of the citizens. This project was designed to enhance equity, transparency, and accountability in the implementation of the COVID-19 NDVP and to provide insights for future vaccination service delivery.

The report primarily focused on investigating the following aspects.

- Understand citizens' experiences, opinions, and motivations for vaccination.
- Assess the extent of vaccination uptake among prioritized groups using data from the COVID-19 vaccination database.
- Examine the level of adherence to vaccination safety protocols.
- Assess the distribution of cold chain and vaccine logistics.
- Assess uptake of the vaccines among health workers and teachers.
- Determine factors which influenced the uptake of vaccines among health workers and teachers.
- Assess factors which inhibit the uptake of the COVID-19 vaccines among healthcare workers and teachers.

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) Platform on the SDGs

As an umbrella body for Civil Society Organizations (CSO), the CSO platform on

SDG in 2022 pursued an agenda to assess citizens' perspectives on the SDGs delivery in Ghana. The platform brought together 77 citizens including people with mental health conditions, young people and people living with HIV/AIDS) citizens across the country to share their perspectives of the SDGs delivery mechanism in Ghana. Find below one notable achievement attained for the year under-reporting.

- A CSOs VNR Shadow Report covering citizens' perspectives on the delivery of the SDGs was developed.



Members of the CSOs Shadow Report Committee and others at the VNR Report validation meeting at Ghana Integrity Initiative Office

In addition, with support from Star Ghana and GIZ, the platform implemented two projects aimed at building the capacities of civil society organizations to monitor and track budgets at the district level and to advocate for increased spending towards an equal society for all.

Promoting accountability in public financial management in Ghana (PFM)

This project which is operational in 21 districts across Ghana built the capacities of 16 civil society actors to conduct a gender-responsive analysis of MMDA budgets, track public expenditure on vulnerable groups across the selected districts, and mobilize

524 citizens including vulnerable groups to make input into the annual planning sessions of targeted districts. The operational areas for the implementation of this project include Ga East, Ningo–Prampram, Ga South, Agona West, Awutu Senya East, Gomoa West, New Juaben South, Suhum, Abuakwa North, Ejisu, Kwadaso, Atwima Kwanwoma, Asunafo South, Tain, Techiman, Tamale, Central Gonja, West Mamprusi, Wa, Nadowli and is funded by the German government through GIZ. The Project accomplished the following successes.

- Mobilized 524 to make inputs into the district assembly 2023 Budget.
- Trained 16 Civil society actors to monitor the 2020 and 2021 expenditures of 21 districts to identify gaps and accountability issues.



Interaction with the elderly group during budget inputs session at Cape Coast



Citizens in Bolga making inputs into the 2023 National Budget

Strategic Partnership Initiative for Ghana and West Africa (SPII)

Again in 2022, we received funding support from OXFAM to advocate for investment in pro-poor public spending towards a more equal, just, and sustainable country for vulnerable minorities including women, girls and persons living with disabilities. For this reason, the Civil Society Organizations Platform of Ghana rallied its members to implement interventions with the sole objective of contributing to policy reforms and strengthening state and non-state mechanisms to effectively address issues that affect this target group such as Climate Justice and Gender Base Violence/ School Related Gender Base Violence GBV/SRGBV. Below are a few achievements chalked under this project.

- Stepped up advocacy efforts for funding the Domestic Violence Fund.

- Provided support for a wider stakeholder engagement initiative focused on Reproductive Health Education in Schools.



A participant contributing to the discussion on peace building with young people's movement in Tamale, Northern Region

FINANCIAL REPORT

This year, we achieved significant successes in our interventions aimed at addressing core policy issues in health, education, inequality, food insecurity, social protection, gender equity, and the cocoa sectors, thanks to our generous donors. SEND GHANA staff and our partners worked closely to ensure resources were well-utilized to enhance project objectives.

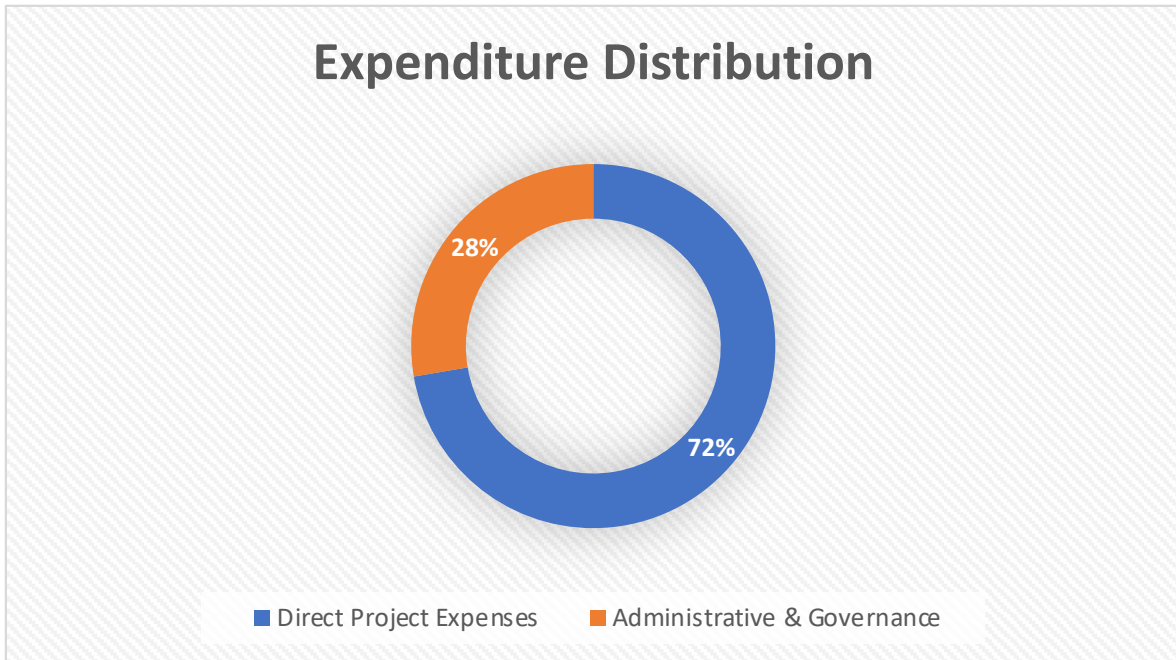
The general economic challenges in the country resulting from external shocks (effects of COVID-19 and the Russian-Ukraine war) had a significant impact on our operations. One key challenge was the effect of the high inflation rate (54.1% in December 2022) on our operational budget for the year.

Overall revenue for the year declined by 33% compared to the 2021 revenue figures. Despite the revenue shortfall and the economic challenges, our dedicated and hardworking team ensured the execution of planned interventions with financial integrity.

Summarized income and expenditure performance are presented below.

Summarized Income and Expenditure		
INCOME	2022	2021
	GHS	GHS
Grants and Donations - Restricted	8 928 300	13981,075
Other Income - Unrestricted	1,013,119	857.460
Total Income	9,941,419	14.838.535
Expenses		
Direct Project Expenses	7,128,721	10.619.016
Administrative & Governance	2,728,031	2,513.414
	9.856.752	13,132,430
Excess of Income over Expenditure	84.668	1.706.105

To achieve desired outcomes and results, we ensured substantial part of our budget is allocated to direct intervention expenses as represented below.



Our achievements for the year were made possible with funding support from our donors and partners: Co-operative Development Foundation–Canada, USAID Ghana, OXFAM in Ghana, INKOTA Netzwerk, GIZ Ghana, UNICEF Ghana, Veterinarian Without Borders, Integrity Action (UK), Global Health Advocacy Initiative, Partnership for Transparency Fund Inc, STAR Ghana Foundation, among others. Thank you all!!

With success in fundraising activities during the year, we are confident of improved financial performance through new partnerships and opportunities in the coming year.

SEND WEST AFRICA HAS TWO AFFILIATES: SEND Ghana and Sierra Leone

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