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2024 ANNUAL REPORT

SUSTAINING THE
MOMENTUM ON BUILDING
ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE



#InspireInclusion



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SUSTAINING THE MOMENTUM ON BUILDING
ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE



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VISION

A just, equitable and sustainable world in which every person enjoys the right to a life of dignity, freedom from poverty and all forms of oppression.



MISSION

To achieve social justice, gender equality, and poverty eradication by collaborating with people living in poverty and exclusion, their communities, people's organisations, activists, social movements, and supporters.

VALUES



Mutual Respect, requiring us to recognise the innate worth of all people and the value of diversity.



Equity and Justice, requiring us to ensure the realisation of our vision for everyone, irrespective of gender, sexual orientation and gender identity, race, ethnicity, caste, class, age, HIV status, disability, location, and religion.



Integrity, requiring us to be honest, transparent, and accountable at all levels for the effectiveness of our actions and our use of resources and open in our judgments and communications with others.



Solidarity with People Living in Poverty and Exclusion will be the only bias in our commitment to the fight against poverty, injustice, and gender inequality.



Courage of Conviction, requiring us to be creative and radical, bold, and innovative – without fear of failure - in pursuit of making the greatest possible impact on the causes of poverty, injustice, and gender inequality.



Independence from any religious or party-political affiliation.



Humility, recognising that we are part of a wider alliance against poverty and injustice.

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ACRONYMS

AAG	–	ActionAid Ghana	MOU	–	Memorandum of Understanding
AAI	–	ActionAid International	NACCAS	–	National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
AAUK	–	ActionAid UK	NCAP	–	National Climate Adaptation Plan
AEA	–	Agriculture Extension Agents	NDPC	–	National Development Planning Commission
ALPs	–	Accountability Learning and Planning System	NGIDP	–	Northern Ghana Integrated Development Project
BECE	–	Basic Education Certificate Examination	Norad	–	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
CMS	–	Contract Management System	PEOY	–	Providing Employment Opportunities for Young People in Ghana
CMSP	–	Combatting Modern Slavery Project	PPL	–	People's Postcode Lottery
CRSA	–	Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture	PRRP	–	Participatory Review and Reflection Process
CS	–	Child Sponsorship	PFJ	–	Planting for Food and Jobs
CSP	–	Country Strategy Paper	PLWD	–	People Living with Disability
EU	–	European Union	PTA	–	Parent-Teacher Association
FAO	–	Food and Agriculture Organisation	RG	–	Regular Giving
FEV	–	Female Extension Volunteer	SDGs	–	Sustainable Development Goals
GEAP	–	Girls Empowerment and Advocacy Platform	SHEA	–	Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Abuse
GES	–	Ghana Education Service	SIF	–	Strategy Implementation Framework
GLSS	–	Ghana Living Standards Survey	SMC	–	School Management Committee
GS	–	Global Secretariat	VSLA	–	Village Savings and Loans Association
HRBA	–	Human Rights-Based Approach	WHO	–	World Health Organisation
HRMIS	–	Human Resource Management Information System	YUWM	–	Young Urban Women Movement
HROE	–	Human Resource and Organisational Effectiveness			
ILO	–	International Labour Organisation			
IMF	–	International Monetary Fund			
JHS	–	Junior High School			
MoFA	–	Ministry of Food and Agriculture			



FOREWARD

FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR

John Nkaw

All too soon, 2024 has come to an end and in line with the tenets of our corporate governance, we must account to all our stakeholders on the commitments we signed up to, for the year in question. In 2024, ActionAid Ghana (AAG) witnessed the strategic contribution and support of the Board of Directors and the General Assembly, who continue to remain an indispensable part of our management decision-making. They support immensely the delivery of our key promises which are contained in our new Country Strategy Paper (CSP VII) titled 'Active Citizenship for Social Justice' and covers a five-year period (2023-2028). This report subsequently catalogues the progress made in 2024, the second year of the implementation of the strategy.

Ghana continues to show signs of progress in the face of daunting development challenges-usually influenced by national and international economic

dynamics. At the same time, however, Ghana's democratic governance credentials have further won her respect and commendation in the international community, making the country an attractive destination for business and investment. This is evidenced by the stable political environment and effective security controls in the country, which have also further deepened the frontiers of individual freedoms and human rights.

Most importantly, AAG continues to fulfil its development mandates under the broad themes of Green Economy and Resilient Livelihoods, Women's Rights and Decent work as well as Active Citizenship, Accountability and Gender Responsive Public Services. While the core functions of the themes are anchored on the HRBA and the "Active Citizenship" brand essence, there have been strenuous efforts to sharpen their impact within the communities. This reinforces our belief that people

living in poverty do not merely wait for change but actively engage in development as citizens, working hard to bring practical meaning to our interventions in poor and deprived communities. As we endeavor to extend our reach to more communities, to improve lives and give voice to the poor, we are constantly reviewing our programme impact, to develop more sustainable alternative opportunities for people living in poverty.

At the national level, AAG devoted the year to raise public awareness on the fund our future campaign, indigenous seed development, gendered tax and public service delivery, unfair tax system, while raising critical concern for discrimination of all forms

of violence against women, particularly the smallholder women farmers in deprived communities who also have no access to land. These campaigns continue to stimulate public discussions on issues of poverty and inequalities between the rich and people living in poverty.

I, therefore, take this opportunity to urge you to read the report to acquaint yourself with progress we have made to achieve our mandate for the year, to enable you support us in our quest for social justice for all, especially for women and girls.

Thank you very much.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The overall programme and project beneficiaries directly reached in 2024 were 112,237 people. By gender disaggregation, 67,436 females representing 60% and 44,801 males representing 40% were involved, maintaining AAG's strong inclination and prioritisation of women's rights and social inclusion. By age disaggregation, the beneficiaries consist of 52,330 Adults (36+ years) representing 47%, 27,292 Youth (18-35 years) representing 24% and 32,615 Children (<18 years) representing 29%. From the Strategic Priorities (SP) perspective, 30,047 were reached under SP1 (Green Economy and Resilient Livelihoods), 54,160 under SP2 (Women's Rights and Decent Work) and 28,030 under SP3 (Active Citizenship, Accountability and Gender Responsive Public Services).

AAG and its allies have been actively vigorously advocating and campaigning for climate justice, placing emphasis on resilient livelihoods and sustainable agriculture by advancing agroecology and food sovereignty. Attention is being called for stakeholders to push for organic production systems and the use of indigenous seed. AAG also joins the global community in rallying around the call for high-polluter nations and developed countries to show increased commitment towards contributing to the loss and damage fund. The fund is aimed at assisting developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change to implement resilient and adaptation interventions

for the at-risk communities and people. It emerged that by the time the COP29 was convened in Azerbaijan in November 2024, around \$800 had been mobilised, though the Loss and Damage Collaboration (L&DC) estimates the cost of loss and damage in 2024 to be about \$671 billion, signifying a gaping deficit. Coming home to Ghana, the climate change alarm sound was loudly manifested in the 2024 drought. The agriculture authorities pointed out that the dry spell resulted in significant losses for over 928,000 farmers, with an estimated investment loss of GH¢3.5 billion and a revenue loss of GH¢10.4 billion. While acknowledging the relief and recovery interventions the government implemented, critical attention should be given to strengthening to the capacity of the Ghana Meteorological Authority (GMET) to generate and disseminate timely and accurate agriculture-based weather forecasts and advisories.

With regards to tackling Gender-Based violence (GBV), after over 10 years of advocacy for the Domestic Violence (DV) Fund to be resourced, an assessment conducted under the AAG and FIDA partnership revealed some positive allocations over the last four years. An amount of GH¢1,000,000.00 was allocated for 2021, increased to GH¢2,119,305.00 in 2022 but reduced to GH¢1,500,000.00 in 2023 and again increased to GH¢2,735,743.00 in 2024. However, checks on the actual releases were difficult to ascertain while the

expenditure account published shows that much of the resources are channeled into trainings and other expenditure, leaving little for direct survivor support. With respect to taking the fight against GBV to the grassroot level, AAG remains a touch-bearer by virtue of implementing community-based awareness to increase understanding on the channels for seeking redress. The support provided to initiatives such as the Community Based Anti-violence Teams (COMBATs), Girls Empowerment and Advocacy Platforms (GEAPs) also known as Girls Clubs, Young Female Platforms (YFPs) and Young Urban Women Movement (YUWM) are praise-worthy. On the campaign against alleged witchcraft accusations, it is regrettable that the push for the President to assent to the private members bill passed by Parliament in July 2023 did not receive positive attention. Nonetheless, AAG remained at the forefront of national campaigns and local engagements, influencing sustained conversations and demands to end witchcraft-related violence. Appreciably the campaign for the reconsideration of the bill is still alive and being championed by major stakeholders like the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) and AAG remain resolute in partnering with allies to push through this agenda.

It is also gratifying that over a decade of advocacy and campaign by gender and women rights activists finally resulted in the passage of Ghana's landmark law known as the Affirmative Action

(Gender Equity) Act, 2024 (Act 1121)¹. The Affirmative Action Coalition and ABANTU for Development, of which AAG is an active member, led the charge that influenced the promulgation of this historic legislation. The law sets targets for increasing female representation in governance and decision-making roles to a minimum of 30% by 2026, 35% by 2028 and 50% by 2030 in the public sector. A great deal of commitment is needed to attain the set goals in view of the current huge female representation deficit in political positions and other decision-making spheres. Since 1992, female representation in Ghana's Parliament has been very low recording a highest of 15% during the 8th Parliament and current 9th Parliament. Also at the local governance level, the District Assembly and Unit Committee Elections has merely able to produce even 5% women representation. Other community level structures such as Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) have identical female representation gaps. Similar marginalisation is also found even for school leadership roles.

However, AAG has engaged education stakeholders to design a novel model that is succeeding in empowering girls to step forward to occupy the overall School Prefect (SP) position, which hitherto had been a preserve for boys. The Affirmative Action (Gender Equity) Law now presents a strong foundation to leverage and to push for increased participation of increase women, girls and other marginalised groups like Person with

¹President Akufo-Addo assents to Affirmative Action Bill 2024 - Graphic Online

Disabilities (PWDs) in various decision-making spheres.

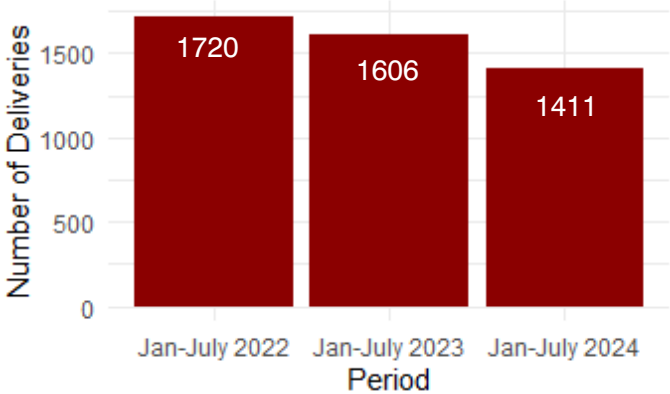
Teenage pregnancies have also remained a persistent pressing issue in Ghana, with far-reaching consequences for the affected girls, their families, and the country as a whole. The Ghana Health Service reports that teenage pregnancy is a leading cause of school dropout among girls, with an estimated 20,000 girls dropping out of school annually due to pregnancies. During the year, AAG facilitated stakeholders' engagements towards combatting this menace as well as child marriages. At one such forum held in the Upper West Region, the Regional Health Directorate sadly revealed that 1,411 deliveries of mothers between 10-19 were recorded from January to July 2024, while 1,606 and 1,720 were recorded within same periods in 2023 and 2022 respectively. AAG promotes sexual and reproductive health rights education to help address this menace. As a result, it has facilitated the establishment of adolescent centers in over 50 rural communities and health facilities, making it easier for girls to access information and education.

A booklet titled “The ABCs of RHE” has also been produced and disseminated addressing the peculiar questions young people usually seek answers to. AAG continues to advocate for compliance with the GES policy that guarantees retention and re-entry for pregnant girls. Notably, AAG

usually supports some of the teenage mothers to remain in school. It is gratifying that follow-up and tracking of 50 such girls supported over seven years ago in Northern Region revealed that 39 have maintained their educational pursuit with some attaining tertial education.

In a nutshell, the year 2024 was a largely fulfilling one where appreciable milestones and progress was chalked up in the quest to contribute to achieving the high-level goals of social justice, gender equality and poverty eradication. AAG looks forward to sustaining and expanding its partnerships, collaborations and alliance building so as to achieve broader impactful results.

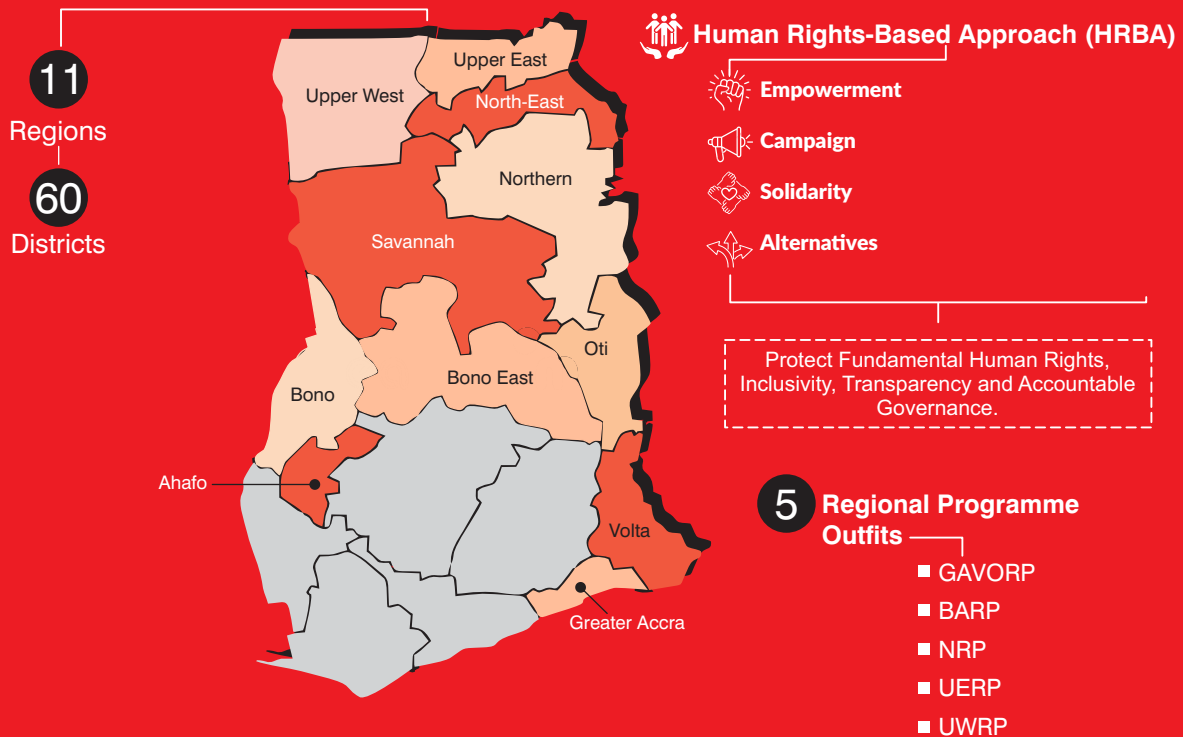
Teenage Mother Deliveries
Upper West Region (10-19 years)





1 ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE: AAG's OPERATIONAL SET-UP AND SCOPE

ActionAid Ghana is an affiliate member of the ActionAid Federation working to see a just, fair, and sustainable world in which everybody enjoys the right to a life of dignity, and freedom from poverty and oppression. AAG has been working in Ghana since 1990 and is a national legal entity with a functional Board of Trustees and a General Assembly which provide the needed governance oversight.



AAG works in the most deprived communities in eleven (11) out of the sixteen (16) administrative regions of Ghana namely, Upper East, Upper West, Northern, North-East, Savannah, Bono, Bono East, Ahafo, Oti, Volta and Greater Accra.

The Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) is the philosophy that defines and guides AAG work. From this lens, AAG plays a pivotal role in mobilizing, organizing, and empowering right-holders to advocate for proactive and responsive commitments from global and national authorities. These efforts focus on building climate resilience in vulnerable communities, ensuring equitable resource redistribution, delivering gender-responsive public services, and formulating policies that protect fundamental human rights, inclusivity, transparency, and accountable governance. Based on this, AAG works with marginalised communities, social movements, grassroot organisations, vulnerable populations and collaborators including CSO coalitions, networks, and the media on protecting human rights of vulnerable people.

AAG's set-up is strategically structured to position and advance its rooted programming. This has informed the decision to still maintain the five (5)

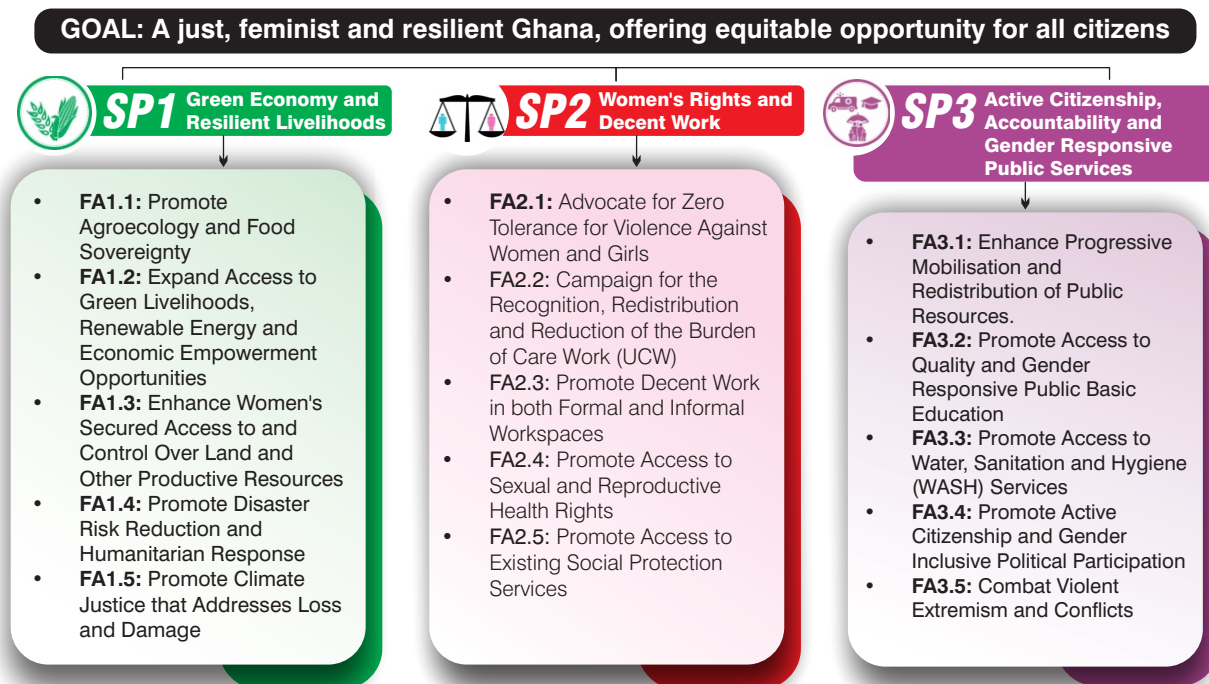
Regional Programme outfits under the coordination of the Head Office in Accra. The Greater Accra, Volta and Oti Regional Programme (GAVORP) outfit is co-hosted at the Head Office. The Bono and Ahafo Regional Programme (BARP) operates from Sunyani, Northern Regional Programme (NRP) from Tamale, Upper East Regional Programme (UERP) from Zebilla and Upper West Regional Programme (UWRP) from Wa.

The Global Platform (GP) remains the spearheading youth mobilisation, capacity building and activism. AAG actively contributes to national and global campaigns challenging patriarchy, advancing gender equality, providing green livelihoods aimed at tackling the structural drivers of poverty. Similarly, AAG joins campaigns seeking the restructuring of unfair political and economic systems, such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank austerity measures by diminishing state funding for public services in favour of privatisation. The focus of our advocacy is for the cancelation of unsustainable debts owed by developing countries like Ghana while supporting the institutionalisation of transparent and accountable governance.

2

AAG's INTERNAL CONTEXT

ActionAid Ghana (AAG) commenced the implementation of its Country Strategy Paper (CSP VII) titled 'Active Citizenship for Social Justice' to cover the period 2023 – 2028. The strategy was finalised and launched in 2023 and grassroots stakeholder dissemination done in 2024 to galvanise effective collaboration and partnerships. AAG's CSP VII is a call to action for social movements, activists, communities, people's organisations, youth groups, women's groups, institutional partners, staff, and all stakeholders towards implementing interventions that embed and support the advancement of feminist, just and transformational systems in Ghana. The Ultimate goal is to achieve social justice, gender equality and poverty eradication. The diagram below presents an overview of the CSP VII Strategic Priorities (SPs) and Focused Areas (FAs).



3 OUR EXTERNAL CONTEXT THAT SHAPED OUR WORK

The information below presents the contextual analyses of the social, political, economic, and climatic factors that impacted AAG programme and project delivery as well as its general operations in 2024.

3.1 Resilient Livelihoods in the Face of Climatic and Humanitarian Threats

AAG is very much inclined to contribute towards addressing global and local conditions that influence climate change. The Conference of the Parties (COP) serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, through decisions 2/CP.27 and 2/CMA.4, established new funding arrangements for assisting developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, in responding to loss and damage². By the time COP29 was being convened in Azerbaijan in November 2024, around \$800 million had been mobilised, though the Loss and Damage Collaboration (L&DC) estimates the cost of loss and damage in 2024 to be about \$671 billion³, pointing to a gaping deficit. AAG and its allies have been undertaking advocacy and campaigns for the adoption of responsive climate adaptation actions at both local and national level. AAG and its partners, including social movements actively championed the global campaigns tagged “Fund Our Future”, calling for an end to investments in fossil fuels and destructive industrial agriculture.

Coming home to Ghana, 2024 showed clear manifestation of the climate change crises. A severe drought occurred, affecting over 928,000 farmers and threatening the country's food security. According to historical data, droughts in Ghana and West Africa tend to occur in cycles of about 30 years, with recent studies suggesting a cyclical pattern of high rainfall followed by drought every decade. The Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMET) had predicted intermittent dry spells during the year's cropping season, but the situation turned into a near-drought, with continuous dry spells for over two months after farmers had planted. The worst-affected regions were the Upper West, Bono East and Northern regions, though other regions namely Upper East, Savanna, North-East and Oti Region were not left out. A wide range of crops such as maize, rice, groundnut, soybean, sorghum, millet and yam were affected.

In a national briefing by the sector Minister for Agriculture, it was revealed that the dry spell resulted

²Fund for responding to Loss and Damage | UNFCCC

³What is current status of Loss and Damage Fund at COP29?

in significant losses for farmers, with an estimated investment loss of GH¢ 3.5 billion and a revenue loss of GH¢10.4 billion⁴. The Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) expressed concerns about the potential crop failures and low yields, posing as a great threat to the emergence of livelihoods and food insecurity, considering that the affected regions contribute over 62% of Ghana's grain supplies annually. The government's response included a temporary ban on grains exports to ensure the availability of critical foodstuff on the domestic market, mopping up stock from farmers to

prevent losses, procurement of grains from the ECOWAS Grain Reserve and private sector to bridge the gap. In addition, a \$500 million farmer relief package to include cash transfers and input support was established. Besides, the capacity of Ghana Meteorological Authority (GMET) was to be strengthened to provide timely and accurate weather forecasts and advisories. To this end, MOFA acquired 20 Automatic Weather Stations (AWSs) for GMET, for installation at key locations nationwide to generate agriculturally focused weather forecasts and advisories for farmers.



⁴Ghana faces devastating dry spell - Government intervenes to avert food crisis - Graphic Online

3.2.Tackling Gender-Based Violence and Advancing Decent Work

Ghana's commitment to human rights protection is evident in its ratification of international conventions as well as the formulation and implementation of national laws and policies, including establishing dedicated institutions to ensure the fulfillment of the rights. It is within this context that AAG builds strong collaborations and partnerships, supporting the vulnerable people to demand their rights to live a life of dignity including securing decent working conditions in both informal and formal environments. AAG is effectively engaging national level actors and decentralised agencies including the Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit (DOVSU), Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), Social Welfare and Community Development, Department of Labour as well as grassroot allies such as the Community-Based Anti-violence Teams (COMBATs) to increase awareness on the various laws and policies that seek to protect rights. After over 10 years of advocacy for the Domestic Violence (DV) Fund to be resourced, an assessment conducted by FIDA and AAG revealed some positive steps. The allocated amounts were GH¢1,000,000.00 in 2021, increased to GH¢2,119,305.00 in 2022, reduced to GH¢1,500,000.00 in 2023 and increased again to

GH 2,735,743.00 2024. Checks on actual releases were difficult to ascertain however the expenditure account shows that the resources are largely channeled into trainings and other expenditure, leaving little for direct survivor support.

AAG also continued its advocacy and campaigns against witchcraft accusations and molestations following the success in influencing Parliament to pass the Anti-Witchcraft Accusation Bill in July 2023 through a Private Members Bill. AAG was at the forefront of high-impact national awareness campaigns, including the widely covered 'Witches in Exile' photo exhibition, influencing sustained conversations and demands to end witchcraft-related violence. Regrettably, the President's decision not to sign the bill passed by Parliament⁵, citing constitutional issues, dealt a significant blow to the momentous milestone on this advocacy agenda. Despite pledging to reintroduce the bill by the government, that was not done. Nonetheless, the campaign for the reconsideration of the bill is still alive and spearheaded by major stakeholders like the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ)⁶.

⁵President Akufo-Addo on why he cannot sign Witchcraft, other bills due to constitutional issues - Graphic Online

⁶CHRAJ to engage Mahama's govt over passage of anti-Witchcraft Bill

Teenage pregnancies remain a persistent and pressing issue in Ghana, with far-reaching consequences for affected girls, their families, and the country as a whole. The 2022 Ghana Demographic and Health Survey (GDHS) report indicates a rise in the rate of teenage pregnancy by 1% from 14% in the 2014 to 15% in 2022. The Ghana Health Service also reports that teenage pregnancy is a leading cause of school dropout among girls, with an estimated 20,000 girls dropping out of school annually due to pregnancies. At a Child Marriage Forum convened in the Upper West in 2024, the Regional Health Directorate revealed that

1,411 deliveries of mothers between 10-19 were recorded from January to July 2024, while 1,606 and 1,720 were recorded within the same periods in 2023 and 2022 respectively. This phenomenon not only undermines the girls' educational and economic prospects but also perpetuates cycles of poverty and inequality. It is for this reason the Retention and Re-Entry Policy of GES provides guarantees for pregnant girls to remain in school to continue with their learning till delivery and to return to school after delivery. ActionAid has been raising grassroots awareness and advocating for compliance with these policy provisions.

3.3. Political and Governance Milestones

The geo-political confrontations and polarization spiraled against the backdrop of the continuing Russia-Ukraine and the ravaging Israel-Palestinian war emanating from the Hamas attacks of October 2023. As such, the global super-powers and developed nations diverted huge investment into strengthening their military armament and security with little prioritisation for supporting at-risk nations and communities suffering food insecurity, disease burden and economic challenges.

The West Africa Sub-Region continued to grapple with concerns about the three junta-led countries

(Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger) which had been suspended from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). While efforts were underway to get these countries return to democratic rule, all three states opted to exit ECOWAS⁷ indicating that the bloc has “drifted from the ideals of its founding fathers and the spirit of Pan-Africanism” and “under the influence of foreign powers, betraying its founding principles, has become a threat to member states and peoples,” while also failing to help them tackle the jihadist violence and extremist activities in their countries.

⁷Ecowas: Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso quit West African bloc

Looking in-country, Ghana successfully held its 9th successive Presidential and Parliamentary Elections under the 4th Republic in December 2024. A smooth transfer of power followed from the incumbent New Patriotic Party (NPP) to the main opposition National Democratic Congress (NDC), consolidating its democratic credentials. Despite the high stakes involved, the election was generally acclaimed to be peaceful, credible and transparent, though with few pockets of violence that resulted in the regrettable loss of six (6) lives⁸.

Notably, the over a decade advocacy and campaign by gender activists under the umbrella of the Affirmative Action Coalition finally resulted into the passage of Ghana's landmark legislation known as the Affirmative Action (Gender Equity) Act, 2024 (Act 1121)⁹. The law sets targets for increasing female representation in governance and decision-making roles to a minimum of 30% by 2026, 35% by 2028 and 50% by 2030 in the public sector. These milestones have been set against the backdrop of the African Union (AU) and United Nation (UN)

gender inclusion targets of 30% and 40% respectively. The Act also mandates the government to promote policies and programs to address gender imbalances in political, economic, and educational sectors, including ensuring gender responsive budgeting and public service delivery. The Act also targets the private sector by offering tax incentives, preference for the award of government contracts and other forms of recognition and support to those who meet the gender equality targets. Penalties for non-compliance include fines, imprisonment, and the revocation of registrations. A great deal of commitment is needed to attain the set goals in view of the current huge female underrepresentation. Since 1992, female representation in Ghana's Parliament has been very low with 15% during the 8th Parliament as the highest and same figure maintained for the current 9th Parliament. See the chart below for a timeline record from 1992 to date¹⁰. Also at the local governance level, the District Assembly and Unit Committee Elections has struggled to produce even 5% women representation.

⁸6 people killed during election 2024 – CDD - MyJoyOnline

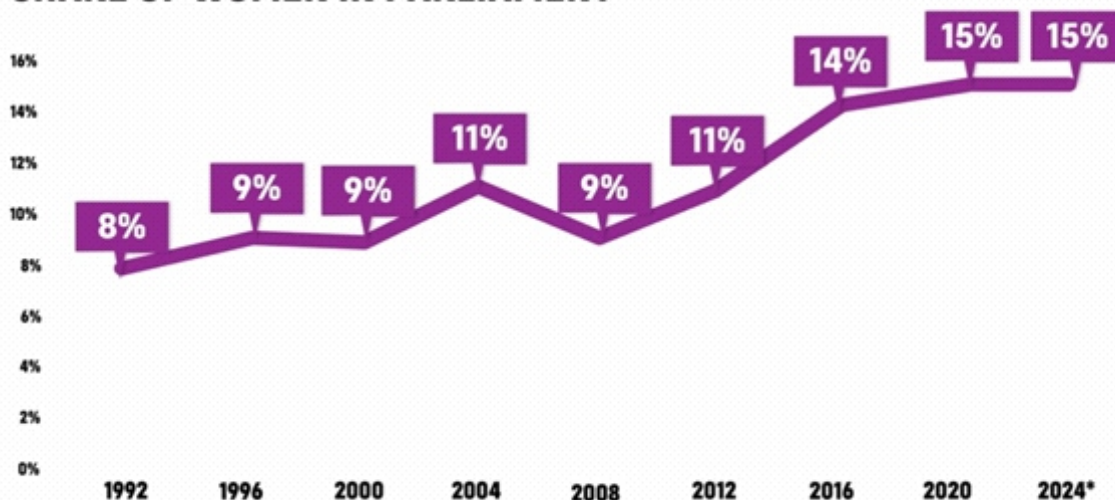
⁹President Akufo-Addo assents to Affirmative Action Bill 2024 - Graphic Online

¹⁰Ghana's ninth parliament: The makeup - MyJoyOnline

GHANA'S PARLIAMENTARY COMPOSITION SHARE OF WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT

POWERED BY
JOYNEWS RESEARCH DESK

Source: EC data



Source: JoyNews Research Desk

3.4. Economic Progress and Vulnerabilities

According to the IMF Global Financial Stability Report (2024)¹¹, high levels and rapid growth of sovereign debt remain a global challenge, with many jurisdictions failing to achieve their longer-term debt-stabilizing primary balances. These mounting vulnerabilities could amplify adverse

shocks, which have become more probable due to elevated economic and geopolitical uncertainty amid ongoing military conflicts and the uncertain future policies of newly elected governments. The global economic landscape was marred by heightened debt vulnerabilities, with a staggering

¹¹Global Financial Stability Report, October 2024 - Steadying the Course: Uncertainty, Artificial Intelligence, and Financial Stability

60% of low-income countries and 25% of emerging market economies either already in or at high risk of debt distress. Furthermore, debt-restructuring efforts were slow to materialize. Meanwhile, the scourge of inequality persisted, both within and across national borders. A record 350 million people in 79 countries grappled with acute food insecurity, exacerbating the plight of those living in poverty.

Over the period under review, Ghana was in its second year of implementing its 17th International Monetary Fund (IMF) economic recovery programme. Notably, the implementation of the IMF backed by austerity measures came at a cost with far reaching consequences on the delivery of pro-poor and gender responsive public services. Governments' ability to invest in critical areas such as public services, infrastructure development, social protection programs and job creation initiatives for young people was constrained. A debilitating Domestic Debt Exchange Programme (DDEP) severely burdened citizens including persistent hikes in utility charges for electricity and water.

Reviewing various published data¹², average inflation in Ghana spiraled from around 10% in 2021 to 31.9% in 2022, further to 39.2% in

¹²Inflation rates in Ghana

Ghana Economic Overview

Key Economic Indicators & Trends (2021-2024)

Global Economic Context

According to the IMF Global Financial Stability Report (2024), sovereign debt remains a critical global challenge with heightened vulnerabilities across developing economies.

60%

Low-income countries in/at risk of debt distress

25%

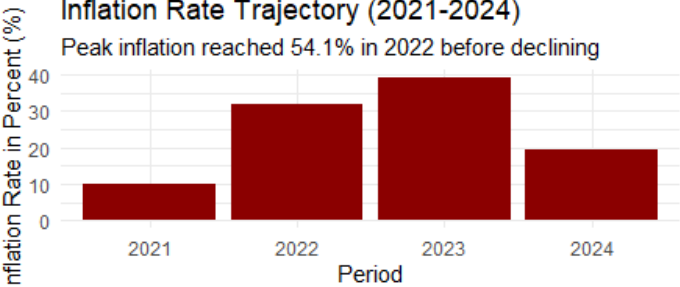
Emerging markets at high debt risk

350M

People facing acute food insecurity

Inflation Rate Trajectory (2021-2024)

Peak inflation reached 54.1% in 2022 before declining



5.7%

GDP Growth 2024
(vs 3.1% in 2023)

¢14.78

Cedi per USD
(Dec 2024)

\$8.98B

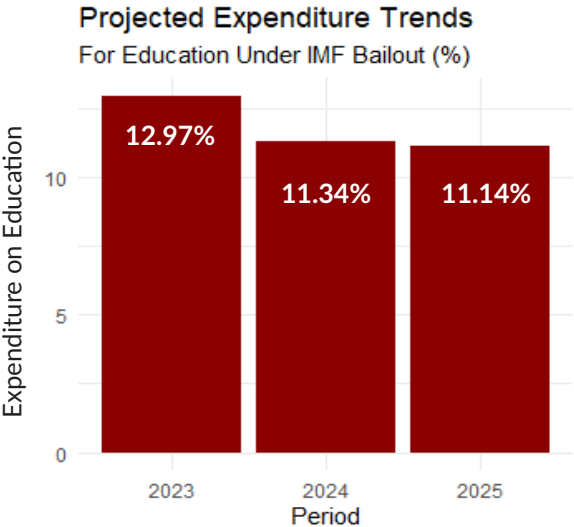
International Reserves
(4 months imports)

70.5%

Debt-to-GDP Ratio
(Down from previous)

2023 and declined to 19.5% in 2024. The year-on-year inflation rate recorded for December 2024 was 23.8%, which missed the 15% set target. However, relative stability was maintained considering the fact that 2023 inflation was also 23.2% after strenuous efforts had been made to bring it down from a record high level of 54.1% in 2022. In terms of exchange rate, the Bank of Ghana data shows that Ghana Cedi to United States Dollar stood at GH¢14.78 to \$1 as the average for December 2024 compared to GH¢11.65 in December 2023¹³. The World Bank¹⁴ posits that Ghana's economy showed strong growth, attaining a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of 5.7% compared to 3.1% in 2023. The external sector improved, achieving a current account surplus of 3.2% of GDP by end-year, bolstered by higher gold and crude oil exports and strong remittance inflows. Gross international reserves increased to \$8.98 billion in 2024 (4 months of imports) from \$5.92 billion in 2023. However, the fiscal outturn deteriorated, with primary and overall fiscal deficits exceeding targets at 3.7% and 7.7% of GDP respectively, due to accumulating arrears and unbudgeted spending. Revenues and grants totaled 15.6% of GDP, while expenditures (commitment basis) rose to 23.3% of GDP. Nevertheless, the public debt-to-GDP ratio declined to 70.5% due to the haircut on Eurobonds and strong GDP growth. The banking sector remained stable in 2024, with assets growing by 33.8% and

stable capital adequacy ratios, although the non-performing loan ratio rose to 21.8% by end-year. An analysis of the projected expenditure trends for the IMF bailout period of 2023 - 2025 shows that education's share of total government expenditure will decline from 12.97% in 2023 to 11.34% in 2024 and further to 11.14% in 2025. Meanwhile, it has been estimated that the country loses about 3 to 4 billion dollars annually to tax exemptions, usually granted to multi-national corporations under questionable considerations, while imposing non-progressive taxes that burdens and lowers standard of living for vulnerable households.



¹³ Exchange Rate – Bank of Ghana

¹⁴Ghana Overview: Development news, research, data | World Bank

4 PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION APPROACHES AND BENEFICIARIES REACHED

4.1. Programme Implementation Approaches

The Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) has been the over-arching framework guiding AAG's programme delivery. This is interwoven around four pillars: Empowerment, Solidarity, Campaigning, and Advancing Alternatives:

In addition to that, the following approaches shape our programme design, implementation and reporting: Advancing Women Rights and Feminist Leadership; Working with Social Movements, Peoples' Organisations, and Allies; Working with the Youth and Digitalisation and Artistic Activism

4.2. Programme Beneficiaries in 2024

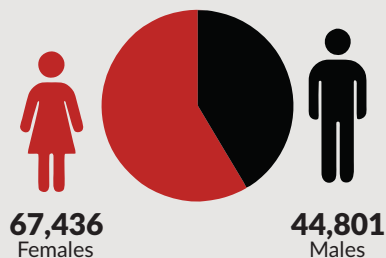
PEOPLE REACHED

112,237

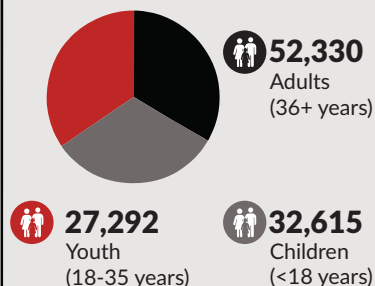
BY DISABILITY

 **6%**

BY GENDER



BY AGE



AAG 2024 Programme
Beneficiaries: Strategic
Priority (SP) Analyses



Strategic Priority (SP) 1
30,047



Strategic Priority (SP) 2
54,160

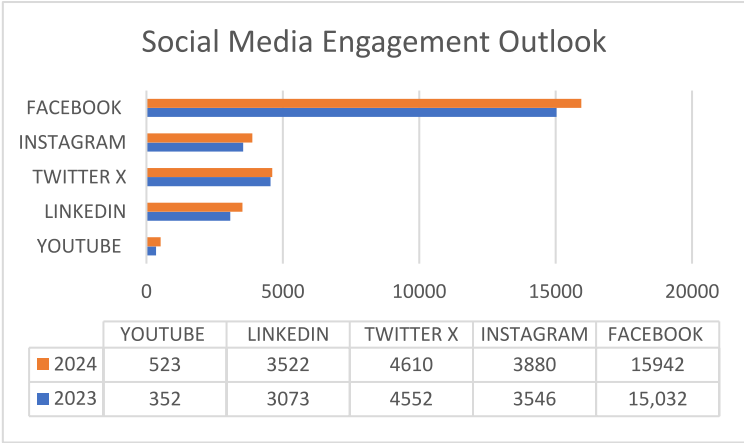


Strategic Priority (SP) 3
28,030

4.3.Our Communications and Media Outreach

Over the years, ActionAid Ghana's communications efforts have undergone a remarkable transformation, moving beyond strategic visibility to engaging in high-impact media advocacy. Through strategically crafted publications, editorials, and opinion pieces, we consistently challenged social injustices and influenced public discourse, securing prominent placement in Ghana's most credible traditional media outlets. In 2024, we harnessed this momentum to create profound reach and influence across the country. Our media efforts saw a remarkable increase, engaging over 3.4 million people nationwide through well-coordinated regional media relations

and targeted broadcasts in rural areas highlighting grassroots struggles of people living in poverty and marginalised groups.



In the digital arena, ActionAid Ghana witnessed growth in our social media community. As depicted in the diagram below, our Facebook followers organically increased from 15,032 to 15,942, Twitter from 4,552 to 4,610, Instagram from 3,546 to 3,880 and LinkedIn from 3,073 to 3,522. Our digital platforms transformed into vibrant hubs for advancing critical campaigns focused on gender justice, youth empowerment, and climate action. With over 70 media features, 16 broadcast appearances, and numerous project impactful stories shared globally, ActionAid Ghana has truly solidified its position as a powerful national voice for social justice, all made possible by the unwavering support and partnerships from donors and effective collaborations with state and non-state actors including the media.

Below are sampled media publications on the key advocacy and campaign actions undertaken by AAG during 2024.

- <https://gna.org.gh/2024/08/fight-against-child-marriage-requires-sustained-actions-actionaid/>
- <https://gna.org.gh/2024/07/actionaid-organises-guidance-and-counselling-for-survivors-of-child-marriage-teenage-pregnancy/>
- <https://gna.org.gh/2024/10/rural-women-in-jirapa-present-six-point-demands-to-pcs/>
- <https://gna.org.gh/2024/11/actionaid-ghana-agric-departments-recognise-women-practicing-agroecology/>
- <https://gna.org.gh/2024/05/access-to-sanitary-pad-key-for-retaining-females-in-school-actionaid/>
- <https://gna.org.gh/2024/03/actionaid-ghana-advocates-active-womens-participation-in-national-economy-2/>
- [*Stakeholders advocate urgent policy to preserve indigenous seeds | Ghana News Agency*](#)
- [*Focus on green economy for job opportunities - ActionAid Ghana advises the youth - MyJoyOnline*](#)
- <https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/ghana-news-under-representation-of-women-in-leadership-affront-to-rights-actionaid.html>
- <https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/revive-existing-sanitation-by-laws-to-protect-the-environment-traditional-leaders-urged.html>





5 THE MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACTS STORIES FROM OUR WORK

The interventions implemented by AAG during the previous years and over the 2024 year contributed significantly towards impacting the lives of vulnerable women, youth, children, and other actors in the following ways.

5.1.Strategic Priority One (1): Green Economy and Resilient Livelihoods

5.1.1.Practitioners of Agroecology Receive Recognition and Awards During the 2024 National Farmers Day Celebration

Over the years, ActionAid has been working with the smallholder women farmers and other CSO's to promote agroecology as a sustainable agriculture strategy towards mitigating the impact of climate change. This endeavour is being advanced within the context of government's agriculture programmes which are largely tilted towards the industrial agriculture, via overly promotion of chemical inputs (fertilisers, weedicides and pesticides). While promoting awareness and supporting smallholder farmers to adopt agroecology, AAG also facilitates policy-level advocacy aimed at influencing prioritisation of agroecology services such as access to organic inputs in the design and implementation of agriculture programmes. It is for this reason that AAG engages with and supports the Departments of Agriculture (DoAs) across the country to identify and recognise agroecology practitioners as part of the annual National Farmers Day awards ceremonies.



Rita Ayiza Teni, a 38-year-old farmer from Dapoo in the Talensi District of the Upper East Region is one such practitioners of agroecology:



"As a smallholder farmer, I have received a lot of trainings and empowerment which enabled me to understand and stick to agroecological practices. I have embraced agroecology because I know how helpful it is to our health and the environment. I learnt that if we adopt agroecology, it will help maintain living organisms in the soil and this contributes to renewing its fertility. We have also been made to understand that the use of inorganic fertilizers, weedicides and other agrochemicals destroys the soil. What we should be using is compost, which helps in making the soil rich. When I adopted the use of only compost, I did not get so much yield at the beginning but as time went on my yield improved significantly. So, I continued to use only compost on my farm and now I am able to produce an average of 15 bags of maize for one acre every year without using fertilizer. Last year, I won the best crop farmer award in my district during the National Farmers Day celebration. I couldn't have achieved this without the support of ActionAid and its local partner Women and Orphans Movement (WOM)".



5.1.2.Compost Use has Greater Benefit than Chemical Fertiliser: Testimony from Agnes Benni

Over the years, AAG has been engaged in promoting compost use especially with smallholder women farmers. Trainings are usually organised for the women groups going through practical compost production. Demonstration farms are established and farmers offered the opportunity to closely observe through a fellowship programmes to track comparative production outcomes, showcasing the power of organic input use versus chemical fertiliser. The fellowship programme also involve supporting targeted women to adopt the compost use and serving as centers of learning for others. These localised promotion activities are backed with national level advocacy for the inclusion of organic fertilizers in government policies. This was necessary as the implementation of the erstwhile Planting for Food and Jobs (PFJ) programme did not prioritise organic inputs supply for farmers compared to chemical fertiliser options.



Agnes Benni, a 41-year-old small holder women farmer from UI-Kpong community in the Jirapa Municipality of Upper West Region is one of adopters and promoters of compost use.

"I have made the best harvest this year though the rain pattern has not been good, and I believe it is because I have applied compost on my farm this year. After the application of compost in my sorghum farm within three weeks I saw a lot of changes, my crops looked green, and the plants were strong and thick as compared to previous years where I always applied inorganic fertilizers. Eventually, I got 7bags (50Kg) of sorghum from one acre as compared to 4 bags in 2023 cropping season, despite this year's severe drought. Even during the drought, I observed that my farm showed greater resilience compared to other farmers who applied chemical fertiliser. I realized that my crops were able to withstand the drought better than theirs and that alone shows the power of compost. With this experience, I don't think I will ever relent in the usage of compost which is cheaper and environmentally friendly. The only challenge is the labor-intensive nature of its preparation, hence our appeal to government to take practical steps in supporting the production and supply of compost fertiliser to farmers with very manageable packaging standards. On behalf of the many smallholder women farmers now using compost, we are grateful to ActionAid and its partner Jirapa Farmers Network (JIFAN) for opening our eyes to this farming method".



Another practitioner of organic farming is Rena Maalong, a 42-year-old rice farmer from Drobo in the Tain District of Bono Region.

“Before 2024, farming was a constant struggle for me and many women in my community. With limited agricultural support, most services were provided by male officers, leaving us without the guidance needed to improve our farming practices. This changed when ActionAid introduced the Female Extension Volunteers (FEVs) program, offering me essential training in sustainable farm techniques, including making organic fertilizers from local resources like fish, neem, and garlic. These methods reduced my production costs by 78%, saving GH 1,050.00 which allowed me to expand my farm from 2 to 3 acres, resulting in an increase from 4 to 10 bags per acre, despite the severe drought that affected general crop yields in 2024. The extra income not only improved my farm's productivity but enabled me to pay for my child's tertiary education and cover household expenses. Thanks to ActionAid's support, I now have the skills, confidence, and resources to manage my farm successfully. I'm proud to be part of a community of women who are also benefiting from this program. Your support has empowered us to drive change and build a better future for our families.”

The FEV intervention implemented by AAG has so far deployed over 1,120 volunteers in 560 communities across 6 regions, namely Bono, Ahafo, Oti, Northern, Upper East and Upper West Regions. To scientifically establish the efficacy of the organic weedicide, pesticide and fertiliser options from fish developed by members of Ghana Agroecology Movement using fish, neem and garlic, ActionAid Ghana liaised with the University of Energy and Natural Resources (UENR) to support an on-field and lab experiments. Follow-ups will be made on this in 2025.



5.1.3. Promoting Food Sovereignty through Indigenous Seed Production: ActionAid Facilitating and Supporting Local Certified Seed Growers to Take Charge

As part of stakeholder engagement and advocacy endeavours, AAG collaborated with Center for Indigenous Knowledge and Organisational Development (CIKOD) and the University of Energy and Natural Resources (UENR) to organise an Indigenous Seeds Development Seminar at the Bono enclave. The forum had in active attendance the Smallholder Women Farmers Movement (SHWFM), Young Urban Women Movement (YUWM) and Activista. The seminar's communique emphasised and called on duty-bearers to upscale training programmes for smallholder farmers, especially women farmers and incentivize them to identify, multiply, preserve and salvage local seeds and other plant varieties or cultivars that are going extinct.

In the pursuit of this agenda, the Upper East Regional Programme succeeded in getting three (3) women certified as local seed growers after going through rigorous business registration and assessment procedures. The Bawku Business Advisory Board (BAC) facilitated their acquisition of business registration certificates from the Registrar General Department. This made it possible for the Regional Seed Growers Association and Savannah Research Institute (SARI) to also assess them before accrediting them as certified seed growers. Each of the three farmers was supplied with 10kg of maize and 5kg of beans foundation seeds by SARI for the production of the certified seeds.



Memunatu Mahama, 48 years old from Ninkogo community in the Pusiga District, is one of the seed growers and shared these remarks:

"I am very happy because I have been given the necessary support and training by ActionAid and BEWDA to become a seed grower. They also facilitated and linked me the institutions that assessed my work and gave me business registration certificate as a certified seed grower and seed dealer. Shifting from grain to seed cultivation, my income has significantly improved. In 2022, I earned GH¢2,500.00 from 5 bags (500kg) of ordinary maize (grain) I harvested from one-acre plot. But when I switched to seed production in 2023, my income increased to GH¢4,500.00 upon selling 4.5 bags (450kg) of the sorted seed to farmers. If it were ordinary maize (grain) and considering that the cost of bag of grain was GH¢600.00, I would not have earned more than GH¢2,500.00 again. This experience has shown me that producing certified seeds is not only more profitable but also a game-changer for my financial future. I'm grateful for the valuable skills that have transformed my farming business."

5.1.4. Enhancing Women's Secured Access to and Control Over Land and Other Productive Resources.

As a smallholder farmer, Celestine Loglo 37-year-old smallholder woman farmer Todome community in the Kadjebi District Oti Region has always known the importance of having access to and control over land. However, like many women in rural communities, she faced significant barriers in securing land for her farming activities. The situation changed when AAG undertook sensitisation in her community emphasising the need for females to be granted secured access and control over land.

With newfound knowledge and confidence, celestine mobilized other women in her community, and with a collective voice, demanded access to and control over land for their farming. As a result, Celestine and 13 other women were able to secure land, enabling them to cultivate and harvest their own crops. The impact was immediate and profound.



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"In our community men own lands and use the land for their farming activities. The men even lease the lands to other people who are settlers in the community. Yet, the women and children only go to the farm to help their husbands by supporting them in planting, weeding and harvesting. The produce is controlled by the man and is usually sold without giving the woman any share, except you are lucky that the money is used for something beneficial to the entire family. But after the community sensitisation during which men were conscientised that the entire family stand to benefit from women when given access to land to farm. My husband subsequently gave me two plots of his farmland to cultivate. I planted maize and okra on the land. Despite the drought experienced in 2024, I harvested the first batch of okra and got 6 baskets which I sold for GH 350.00 each, making a total of GHC 2100, though the family also ate some. The maize too was harvested to support family food needs. With these earnings, I was able to buy books and new school uniforms for my children and other family needs. It is my hope that the rain will be better next year as I hope to make bigger earnings. Kindly extend this conscientisation to many other communities to enable women find liberation."

5.1.5. Women are True Change Agents: Inspiring Men to Adopt the Village Saving and Loans Association (VSLA) Initiative Towards Expanding Household Resource Capacity.

Access to savings, loans, and other sources of credit is a core component to fostering prosperous and resilient communities. Farmers are often faced with financial capital constraints before harvesting

their crops; they often need to take loans to support themselves until the next harvest yet lack of information, high interest rates, lack of collateral to take loans, and loan sharks are barriers to farmers'

ability to access financial resources. The Village Saving and Loans Association (VSLA) model has been deployed as a unique, sustainable and very low-cost intervention reliably offering financial resource mobilisation and credit products at moderate cost at the doorstep of the rural folks using improved governance, standardised procedures and simple, transparent financial systems. ActionAid Ghana (AAG) facilitated and supported the establishment and operations of over 1,000 VSLAs, mostly involving women and young people.

Amenyogbeli Freda from Kukurantumi community in the Oti Region is the leader of one of such VSLAs and points to its benefits.



“

The VSLA group started with 30 and has now increased to 42. Before the initiative, I struggled to save money to the desired amount to boost my farming and business activities. But upon the introduction of the VSLA, I have three cards, that I contribute GH¢50.00 for two cards and GH¢20.00 for the third card. My total contribution for the week is GH¢120.00 which offer me a monthly saving of at least GH¢480.00. So, from March to December 2024, I was able to save GH¢4,800.00. Members do always borrow from the group savings and pay back with little interest of around 5% unlike the banks and micro-finance institutions which charge over 30% interest for loans. I intend to take my savings by the end of March 2025 to invest into my rice and maize farm. Our group has supported other women in other communities to also set-up and operate the VSLAs. We are grateful to have been supported with this intervention

However, it is emerging that some of the male counterparts are feeling alienated and threatened from the level of economic empowerment and financial independence being gained through this VSLA and other livelihood opportunities. In some cases, also, the men will coerce the women to take up loans from their VSLA for them but default in returning the money for the women to repay the loan taken, thereby generating family confrontation. For women who refuse to take up the loans for their husbands, it also becomes another point of discord and conflict. It is for these reasons that the Bofo Women Group from Hiamankyene in the Bono region, decided to support their husbands to also establish their VSLA. This bold initiative has yielded remarkable results, transforming not only the lives of the men involved but has strengthened family bonding and peaceful co-existence.

Veronica Agyeiwaa is the Chairperson of the Bofo Women Group in Hiamankyene in Tain District of Bono Region, married with 4 children and shares the joy in supporting the men to also embark on the VSLA initiative.



"In 2023, some men in our community approached the women groups during our VSLA meeting to solicit our support in mobilizing their VSLA. We saw it as an opportunity to solve the problems that women come to report about their male counterparts. We were able to support the formation of three men VSLA groups and provided them with the skills, including confidence building and oversight to manage their finances effectively. The complaints that use to come from colleague women regarding their husbands collecting the loans taken and refusing to

support the repayment has drastically reduced. We see very cordial relationships, financial stability, and thriving businesses being jointly undertaken by husbands and wives. By empowering both women and men through Village Savings and Loan Associations, we've not only transformed individual lives but also strengthened our community. Men, once dependent on their wives' savings, now have financial autonomy, reducing conflicts and fostering a shared journey towards economic stability. Together, we are breaking barriers, creating lasting change, and building a future of financial inclusion for all".

5.1.6. Breaking Socio-Cultural Barriers that Marginalised Women from Venturing into Productive and Commercially Viable Opportunities.

Awulatu Hudu, 45 years of age from the Dangbe community in the Nanumba North Municipality of Northern Region is one of those breaking the barriers to end the long-term socio-cultural stereotype which defines and limits women to the farming of legumes to venture into yam and cassava production. She is a member of the smallholder women farmers movement (SHWFM) who

benefitted from numerous trainings on agroecology, sharing of UCW roles within the family and the need to embrace diversity and inclusivity to end stereotypes which, impede gender equality and social justice. Awulatu has ventured into farming of yam and cassava which according to tradition, is not the norm.



“ActionAid and Songtaba has been undertaking regular community education for socio-cultural barriers to be broken. Women have also been trained to understand that we can do most of the things that men do, if only we are passionate about it. This encouraged me to cultivate tuber crops like yams and cassava for the first time in my farming life in over twenty years. Farming of yam and cassava are the most lucrative within my area. In 2023 for

instance, 100 pieces of yam seeds were sold at GH 500.00 during the harvest period. The same 100 pieces of yam tubers was sold between two thousand to five thousand Ghana cedis (GH 2,000.00) depending on the variety and size. Comparatively a bag of maize was sold at GH 450.00 at the same period. If you analyse it critically, farming yam is ten times more profitable than maize and groundnuts. However, women have been discouraged not to cultivate them, because of the socio-cultural believe that it is a preserve for men. Growing up, I never saw women cultivate tuber crops. So, the trend continued with me until 2024 when I made a firm decision to break the status quo. The huge profit margin motivated me, and I also received strong encouragement from ActionAid and Songtaba. I have cultivated one-acre of yams intercropped with cassava. This has become a great motivation for other women who have expressed their plans to also cultivate yam in the next farming season. We are thus ending the socio-cultural belief that the cultivation of yam and other commercial ventures is the preserve of men”.

5.1.7. Giving Inspiration to Vulnerable Households to Secure Economic Freedom through Livelihood Skills Training and Start-up Support

Louisa Hanson, 34-year-old from Ampeyuo community in Kadjebe District is one of the Female Household Heads who benefitted from the livelihood skills training granted to 398 female headed households in 2022 under the Combatting Modern Slavery Project. Upon receiving training in soap making, she ventured into the production and sale of different brands ranging from moringa soap, Turmeric, and activated Charcoal soap. Louisa Hanson tells her story of economic emancipation:



"Before the soaping training, I was just a peasant farmer who barely made enough money and even struggled to provide three square meals daily for my family. I therefore committed to making judicious use of the startup support I received after the training. I have built upon the knowledge I gained during the training and can now make soap using any natural and healthy herb that would not have an adverse effect on the skin, a typical example is prekesse (Tetra pleura tetraptera). By the end of 2023, I had saved GH¢3,000.00 and invested GH¢2,000.00 of that in the maintenance of my cocoa farm. I inherited an acre of cocoa farm for the past 10 years, but I could not maintain the farm due to lack of funds to hire labour. The cocoa farm was unproductive as the highest amount ever earned from the farm was GH¢400.00.

However, after the maintenance work, I made a net profit of GH¢10,000.00 during the 2023/2024 cocoa season, after deducting all expense including the GH¢2,000.00 I invested. I used the proceeds from my cocoa farm to renovate and stock provisions shop. I have also started molding blocks to complete a two-room structure that will be used for my soap business. To achieve all this within the last two years without owing anyone or any financial institution looks like a miracle and that miracle is ActionAid Ghana and its partner NOCID. I have also joined the Village Savings and Loan Association formed in my community by NOCID, where I save GH¢150.00 every week, using three (3) passbooks, I am grateful for the life changing impact these interventions have brought unto my life."



5.1.8. Riding on the Back of Resources Mobilised from Skills Training to Pursue Tertiary Education

From Obengkrom in Asutifi North District of Ahafo Region, 25-year-old Asare Matilda is now a tertiary school graduate. She utilised the income generated from the skills training provided by AAG under the Promoting Employment Opportunities for Young People (PEOY) Project around 2021. The PEOY project benefited 515 young people (354 females and 161 males) across the Ahafo, Northern and Upper East Regions. Matilda explains the stumbling blocks she faced in her educational journey until the skill training and income generation ventured became her savior.



"I am delighted to share my story, which is a testament to the transformative power of skills training and now a professional teacher. Before the skills training, I was struggling to make ends meet. When I completed Senior High School (SHS), my parents informed me that they were not financially capable of taking care of my tertiary education. I was stuck and felt uncertain about my future. Luckily ActionAid visited my community and introduced the skills training programme targeting unemployed young people and I got enrolled. The programme was timely as it changed

my situation. I was trained in beads and sandal work. Since then, I have always been passionate about that business alongside maintaining my dream of becoming a teacher. Due to the quality of my works, I received orders from outside my community, and my income increased significantly. I was also once contracted to provide training for other people in different communities. The skills training programme has not only equipped me with valuable skills but also instilled in me the confidence and entrepreneurial spirit to succeed. I learned how to manage my finances, market my products, and provide excellent customer service. Over the period of 2021 to 2024, I made a profit of ten thousand Ghana cedis (GH 10,000.00). I used part of that money to pay for my fees and catered for other expenses for my tertiary education. I have now completed my Degree Programme in Education and supporting a community based private school as a teacher to fulfil my passion. I look forward to gaining public sector employment when the opportunity comes up. Even upon that engagement, I will still continue to undertake the beads and sandal work business. I am grateful to ActionAid Ghana and CMCE for this life changing support."

5.2.Strategic Priority Two (2): Women Rights and Decent Work

5.2.1.Empowered Teenage Girls Assert their Rights by Rejecting, Reporting and Seeking Redress for Gender Base Violence, Including Child Marriages

Series of capacity building training and sensitization have been organised for teacher mentors and members of Girls Advocacy and Empowerment Platforms (GEAPs) also known as Girls Clubs club members. This has increased their knowledge and empowered them to understand their rights and responsibilities, forms of violence and channels for reporting and seeking redress upon rights violation. As such, these girls have gained confidence and mastered the courage to resist and report threats of violence to authorities for punitive action. To widen this confidence posture among girls, AAG facilitates radio discussions with survivors that faced threats or experienced gender-based violence to share their experiences to serve as encouragement to other girls to open up and report any form of violence to the appropriate agencies.



"It was one afternoon after school, when a young man from the nearby house requested for my support to buy him something from the market. Knowing how respectful he was in our neighborhood; I never believed such evil thought was in his mind. I quickly walked to his house to collect the money for the items he wanted me to buy for him. Immediately I knocked at his door, he quickly opened the door and pulled me into his room. With the knowledge and empowerment, I gained from ActionAid and Songtaba on how to reject and report violence, I ignored every threat of his and began to shout and scream for help. He threatened to hurt me if I refuse to keep quiet and

allow him to have sex with me. As an empowered girls club member, I resisted and continued to shout for help. Fortunately, there was a knock on his door, ordering him to release me immediately. He released me and I walked out of his room. He was later arrested by police after narrating the story to my parents. The case was pursued in court for final redress. He was fined GH 2,000.00 and made to sign a bond of good behaviour not to ever repeat such an act. He also suffered naming and shaming from the entire community, and he left the community because of the shame. I wish to thank Songtaba and ActionAid for giving us the courage and confidence to reject and report such devilish acts harm girls".

On another front, a child marriage incident was thwarted through the whistle blowing action of E.P. Demonstration JHS Girls Club former President in the Northern Region, Miss Murijana Inusah



“A 15-year-old colleague of mine confided in me after one of our Girls Club meetings that her father had planned to forcefully give her out for marriage against her will. I advised her on the channels we can use to prevent her father from pursuing the plan and she agreed to pick up the matter. So, I accompanied her to report the case to our Girls Club Mentor and the Municipal Guidance and Counselling Coordinator was also informed. These two officers took the case up and freed her to continue her education. I therefore advise colleagues to always report such cases to the right authorities to save them from these kinds of violence. It is the empowerment I received that gave me the confidence to support my colleague to report this issue. I thanked ActionAid and hereby encourage them to expand the intervention to all schools. general”.

5.2.2. Justice Sought for Deceased Victim of Domestic Violence by COMBAT

The Community Based Anti-violence Teams (COMBATs) are grassroot volunteer teams AAG collaborates with law enforcement agencies to establish so as to contribute to increasing awareness, mediating in minor cases of domestic violence while facilitating the referral of major cases for legal redress. These COMBATs have been established in over 400 communities across AAG operational areas.

The Community Anti-Violence Team (COMBAT) of Nayoko community in the Binduri District of Upper East Region acted swiftly upon hearing the sad death of a 36-year-old women by name Habiba in 2023, allegedly killed by her 39-year-old husband, Ibrahim, a farmer from Kuka community. Asimiga Tahiru, a member of Nayoko COMBAT provides an account of the case:





“The information we gathered was that the late Habiba had a misunderstanding with her husband which led to a fight and the husband hit her with a hoe and she died instantly. After her demise, the husband and his relatives intended to bury the body quickly so that nobody gets to know what happened. However, they were obliged to inform the in-laws before her burial could take place in accordance with the Kusasi tradition. That led to the matter reaching the COMBAT who quickly reported the incident to CHRAJ in Binduri.

CHRAJ then forwarded the complaint to the Ghana Police Service since the case was a high crime largely beyond CHRAJ's mandate. The police quickly intervened and stopped the burial. An investigation was commissioned into

the allegation. An autopsy was also conducted. Eventually, the husband of the late Habiba was prosecuted, charged with murder. He was convicted of man-slaughter and sentenced to seven years imprisonment by the Bolgatanga High Court in 2024. The case has become a great deterrent to men to be careful in physically abusing women”.

5.2.3.Fostering Inclusivity and Creating Enabling Environment for Persons Living with Disability (PWDs) to Seek Redress Upon their Rights Violation

There are systemic communication barriers for Persons Living with Disability (PWDs) in their quest access to justice over right violation. As part of the implementation of Transformative Action for Gender Equality Project (TAGE) project, ActionAid Ghana and its partner, the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA-Ghana) trained 40 DOWSU and Social Welfare Officers in sign language to enhance their ability to communicate with PWD who seek justice over abuses.

AAG subsequently proceeded to hold an engagement meeting between PWDs (physical, hearing and visually impaired) in the Greater Region to further discuss channels for obtaining responsiveness from the state actors. The PWDs shared their past experiences, much of it involved frustration.

Josiah Emmanuel Mensah, 41-year-old hearing-impaired person from Hohoe District was one of the participants at the engagement meeting and happily shared this:



“Because we know that the DOWSU, Social Welfare and CHRAJ offices do not have sign language interpreters, we were reluctant to go and report our issues and seek redress. We taught these institutions do not prioritise the fulfilment of the rights of PWDs. Since some officers have been trained on basic sign language, I am now confident to report any GBV issue and to seek redress”.

5.2.4.Promoting Social Cohesion and Protection of Children Rights: The Appiah Family Case Study in Deideman

Sarah Appiah, a 36-year-old woman from Deideman in Ga West District, of Greater Accra provides insights into the dilemma and struggle she went through to ensure that her 12-year-old son, Kawkye, who was expelled from home got reconciled with the foster father, reunited with the family and is being supported to pursue a career training.

“I had seen the marvelous work done by the COMBAT in my community in the rescue of four children who were neglected by their parents. On my part, I had a misunderstanding with my husband concerning my son, which happens to be his stepchild and not his biological child. My son's biological father died when he was only six months old, and I got married later to my current husband. He felt my child was being disrespectful towards him. For this reason, he sent him out of the house and threatened to send me packing if I ever allowed him back into the house. Kwakye left home, dropped out of school and started





wandering in the community and I was traumatized about how he would build a future for himself under that circumstance. My plea to my husband to reconsider his decision was not being heeded. So, I spoke to a COMBAT member and when the mediation by the COMBAT was also becoming a challenge, ActionAid Ghana and the Department of Social Welfare were brought in to assist. Thus, the Social Welfare Officer and together with the COMBAT took up the mediation and made my husband understand the need for him to provide foster fatherhood to the child to guarantee a bright future for him. My son was allowed to return home, and we are now living as a peaceful and happy family. My husband and I are putting resources together to enroll him into the mechanical apprenticeship as per his wishes. I am very

grateful to ActionAid for establishing the COMBAT in Deideman community and regularly coming to our community to educate us on gender-based violence and protecting the rights of vulnerable people like women and children”.



5.2.5 Breaking the Silence and Stigma and Transitioning to Increased Knowledge and Informed Decisions on Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) for Adolescent Girls

The weak implementation of the School Health Education Programme (SHEP) and other awareness raising actions contribute to low knowledge among adolescent girls on their sexual and reproductive health rights. ActionAid Ghana

and its partners have been facilitating increased awareness raising through the GEAPs/Girls Clubs and Young Female Platforms (YFPs) including radio programmes. Ghana Health Service and the Ghana Education Service have become close

collaborators in this endeavour. AAG has facilitated the establishment and linkage of girls to adolescent corners in over 50 rural communities. This intervention makes it easy for adolescent girls to seek information and guidance on sexual and reproductive health as well as personal hygiene. Such communities include Obengkrom and Njau in Ahafo and Bono Regions as well as the Bolni, Nakpa and Juasheyili in North East Region.

In helping provide documented source of information, ActionAid Ghana and Norsaac collaborated with the Ghana Health Service to produce a booklet titled “The ABCs of RHE”. This booklet was specially designed to address the knowledge gap in reproductive health education (RHE), by responding to the most frequently asked

questions young people usually find it difficult seeking answers to. The book got nationwide publications and recognition through its launch. It serves as a reminder to push duty bearers to initiate enabling actions to promote access to information and services for young people on reproductive health and rights. Stakeholders at the launch made commitment to ensuring the information contained in the book is disseminated to other young girls to increase their knowledge on safe sexual practices, contributing to reduction in Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), teenage pregnancies, and unsafe abortions. So far, over 5,000 copies of the booklet have been distributed and are benefiting young girls and boys across various schools and communities in Ghana.

Rhodaline Bayor is a 16-year-old pupil at Njau Junior High School in the Bono Region. Her perception of discussing issues on sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) has changed after visiting and receiving education from the health officer at the adolescent corner.



“Access to sexual and reproductive education has been a challenge for some of us. Even though as a girl I have been observing natural growth and changes in my body, I had never engaged my parents or teachers on issues relating to sexual and reproduction issues in order not to be judged to be a 'spoilt child'. When I heard about the establishment of the adolescent corner by ActionAid in the community, I and other colleagues visited the facility to find out more on its purpose. When we got there, the health officer in charge was happy to see us and she took us through the rationale of the corner. I felt relieved because

the purpose of the center seeks to address my fears. Ever since, we have been visiting the center to seek better information. They use reading materials, posters and audio-visual tools to educate us. We also have fun playing games like Ludu and Cards. Now I have a good understanding of issues of sexual and reproductive health and personal hygiene. I thank ActionAid and its supporters for providing funding for the establishment of this facility in my community”.

A similar story is shared by **Zelia Nurudeen, a 13-year-old Junior High School (JHS) three pupil of Benguri Girl's Model School in the Upper East Region:**



“Any time I want to ask or discuss any issue with my mother concerning sexual and reproductive health, she always looked at me strangely and I have to shut up and walk away. It is the education we received at our Girls Clubs meetings that have increased my knowledge and understanding of the issues. Through these interactions, our questions are answered, and we are guided to live a safe life. We also have the opportunity to visit health corners located at the health centers to talk about our sexual and reproductive health issues with trained and trusted personnel who are willing to listen and help.”

The Young Urban Women Movement (YUWM) have also taken it upon themselves to increase their knowledge on issues around bodily integrity and proceed to undertake awareness raising via community durbars and media discussions. One notable moment usually used for such awareness raising is World Menstrual Hygiene Day. The 2024 celebration was under the theme: “Together for a

#PeriodFriendlyWorld”, where sanitary pads were also donated to girls across all the AAG programme areas. At the commemorative event in Upper West Region, Paschalina Kogh, a 23 year old from Sentu Community in Lambussie District and a YUWM member, benefitted greatly from the learning sessions on managing mensural pain to share with underprivileged girls in her community.



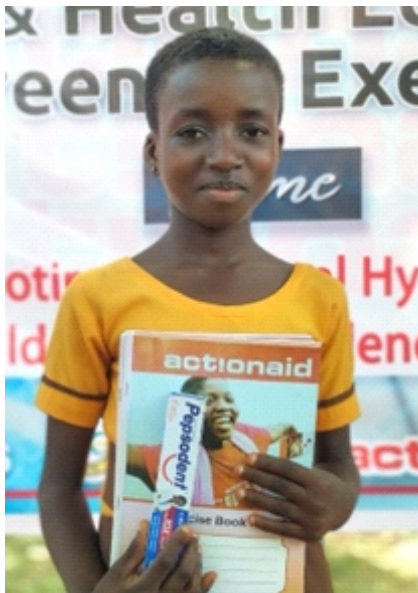
"Today is a great day for me. In the beginning, I knew that when you are experiencing menstrual pain, you can only take pain killers to get relieve. But now, I have learnt from the nurses that you can also use warm water and a towel to have a warm massage. With this new knowledge, I will take the opportunity to educate young girls in my community who are unable to access pain killers when they experience pain during menstruation. I will also talk to boys to avoid mocking young girls who stain their clothes during menstruation. A lot needs to be done to curtail the situation where girls stop attending school during their menstrual cycle and missed out on learning".

5.2.6 Catching Them Young in Personal Hygiene Promotion: A Special Package Offered by AAG to Children under its Sponsorship Programme

As part of initiatives to reinvigorate the child sponsorship programme under which AAG drives its regular giving income, various motivational packages are given to the children. Child Sponsorship Days are also organised by engaging the children in quiz competitions and fun games. The Upper Regional Programme of AAG undertook a novel activity by getting the children and their parents educated on personal hygiene, focusing on oral hygiene. A Dentist and Nutritionist were involved as resource persons who engaged the children and parents in interactive sessions, practical demonstration of proper brushing of teeth good nutritional habits which contribute to good health and general well-being. Emphasis was placed on the use of fluoride toothpaste and the need to brush at least twice daily. Dental screening was conducted for the children and those with dental caries, stains/plaques and gingivitis were identified and referred to a dental clinic for attention. In addition to the exercise books usually given to the sponsored children, toothpaste and toothbrushes were also added to help them practice oral hygiene.



Ten-years-old Esther Aduut, a Primary 5 Pupil at Binguri Primary School notes the transformational oral hygiene she now practices.



"Since the day we were educated on proper oral hygiene practice, I have been committed to brushing twice daily and have also been careful about taking too much sweets which may end up spoiling my teeth. I have taught all my younger siblings and ensures that they also do as I do. I even remind my mother to also brush when I realise that she is skipping it. I always feel freshness in my mouth and not afraid to show my teeth. My mind is made up to become a nurse in furture so that I can help out many families facing various health challenges".

5.3 Strategic Priority three (3): Active Citizenship, Accountability and Gender Responsive Public Services

5.3.1. Experience is the Best Teacher: Putting Teenage Mothers and Survivors of Child Marriage at the Forefront of Sensitising Communities on Tackling these Occurrences

Teenage pregnancies remain a persistent and pressing issue in Ghana, with far-reaching consequences for the affected girls, their families, and the country in general. This phenomenon not only undermines the girls' educational and economic prospects but also perpetuates cycles of poverty and inequality. Gratefully, the Retention and Re-Entry Policy of GES provides guarantees for pregnant girls to remain in school and continue with their learning till delivery. Beyond that, they are also permitted to return to school after delivery. ActionAid has been raising grassroot awareness and advocating for compliance with these policy provisions.

Over the last couple of years, AAG and its allies rescued and supported some of the teenage mothers and child marriage survivors to re-enter school to pursue their educational career. Steps have also been taken to track the progress that these girls are making. For instance, the Northern Regional Programme reports that out of 50 survivors tracked, 39 remained on their educational journey. Notably, one (1) is pursuing Degree Programme in Midwifery at Catholic University in Sunyani, three (3) are in Colleges of Education, five (5) are in Nursing

Training Colleges, ten (10) pursued Diploma Distance Learning courses at University of Development Studies (UDS), two (2) attending Technical and Vocational Institutes, 19 are at Senior High Schools (SHS), while four (4) ventured into skills training and are now master trainers. In case of Upper West, 19 survivors rescued under a child marriage project between 2015 and 2018 are at the tertiary level, most of them in Teacher and Nursing Training Colleges, while others also ventured into vocational skills training upon their inability to pass their BECE or WASSCE.

Going by the adage that experience is the best teacher, community fora are organised for the teenage mothers who defied the odds to persevere with their educational journeys, to share their experiences including the ordeals they surmounted to chart a purposeful future for themselves. One such formidable young female is 21-year-old Rafia Abdulai, a second-year student at Nkanchina Nursing and Midwifery Training College who joined the community outreach and shared her experience, encouraging parents especially mothers to support their daughters not to abandon school when faced by pregnancy.



"I became pregnant in the first term of my second year at Senior High School. However, with the continuous sensitization of communities by Songtaba and ActionAid Ghana on the GES retention and re-entry policy, I had the needed support from my parents and school authorities to continue. Even though a few colleagues mocked and called me names, the school authorities always supported me and cautioned such students who made the school environment unpleasant for my stay. Despite the challenge of managing pregnancy and academic work, I passed my West Africa Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE). Currently I am in my second year as a nursing student in the Nkanchina Nursing and Midwifery Training College. I therefore appeal to parents not to end the education of their girls due to pregnancy. Teenage mothers deserve the same support as any other student and sometimes even more when resources are available".

5.3.2.Teenage Mothers Defying the Odds to Continue their Education Career

Below is a testimonial of a teenage mother who defied the stigma and other impediments to sustain their education careers, with the conviction that their destiny is largely defined by that.



“My name is Abasa Gloria. I am a 22-year-old girl in Kadjebi. Around 2016, I got pregnant at age 15 while in JHS 3. I dropped out of school and did not have the opportunity to write the BECE. Upon delivery, ActionAid and NOCID supported me with school items to go back to school. I went back to JHS 2 and completed my JHS successfully. I then attended Okajakrom Senior High School in the Oti Region and studied Home Economics. I aspire to be an Immigration Officer in the future. My advice to young girls is to take their time to study and avoid actions that will jeopardize their education. For the young girls who have already made the mistake of getting pregnant, do not give up. Go back to school, mend up your mistake, and forge ahead. I am most grateful to ActionAid and NOCID once again for giving me this opportunity to still look up to a bright future. I am an advocate for the retention and re-entry policy wherever I find myself “.

5.3.3.Challenging the Status Quo and Inspiring Girls to Take up Leadership Positions

The gender stereotype and socio-culture marginalisation faced by women within the larger society also perpetuates itself even in school governance structures. Historically, the Senior Prefect (SP) position had become a preserve for boys. But over the few years, AAG took aggressive

The gender stereotype and socio-culture marginalisation faced by women within the larger society also perpetuates itself even in school governance structures. Historically, the Senior Prefect (SP) position had become a preserve for boys. But over the few years, AAG took aggressive

steps to influence a change to the status quo by facilitating stakeholder engagements while also empowering the girls to step forward to take up leadership roles. In the northern region in particular, AAG and Norsaac succeed in engaging the Regional Directorate of GES to adopt a gender inclusive leadership structure in 2022. This is part of the broader agenda of catching them young and nurturing leadership capacities towards eliminating the gender imbalance in women leadership.

From the Ahafo Region, Rhodiline Ofori, a 17-year-old Science student from Samuel Otoo Senior High School was elected Senior Prefect (SP) in 2024. She gives an account of how that came about:



"Initially, my confidence level in contesting for the Senior Prefect (SP) position was low. But upon attending the leadership training organised by ActionAid, my confidence was boosted. When I made my intentions known to my classmates, I had tough opposition from the boys in my class saying that the position is not meant for girls. But most of the girls and some boys stood by me and we put together a vibrant team comprising both girls and boys to campaign for the position under the theme "females are equally good leaders". The students bought into this slogan based on the messages I put forward, which included providing the opportunity for the students' voices to be heard, addressing the needs and concerns for the students and helping more girls take up leadership roles. The election was competitive, but I eventually won by beating my male contender by 27 votes. I have made history as the first female to occupy the SP position in my school. I feel proud to have broken this longstanding stereotypical norm. The success factors are assertiveness, perseverance and encouragement from students and teachers who believed in my leadership potentials. I hope to leave a remarkable legacy to inspire confidence for other girls to be elected in the future. I thank ActionAid for promoting the inclusive leadership concept and strengthening girls' capacity to stand up to be counted."

5.3.4. Persons Living with Disabilities (PWDs) are not Left Out in ActionAid's Empowerment Agenda

ActionAid's girls' empowerment agenda consciously integrates persons living with disabilities (PWDs). **From the Upper East Region, Josephine Abugri, a 16-year-old second-year student of Kusanaba SHS** is one of the YFP member who has found a sense of belongingness and purpose:



"I am a person with a disability and my disability came after a strange sickness which affected my left leg and left it incapacitated. When I came to school during the first year, I was isolated and had no friends due to low self-esteem as a PWD. I was not even confident enough to answer questions in class. Then one day, the YFP mentor spoke to me and encouraged me to join the platform. Learning from the YFP meetings has transformed my personality and built my confidence to stand out to be counted. My new personality has even boosted my academic performance as I now ask and answer questions in class with so much confidence. Now I enjoy being in school. The confidence and self-esteem have already put me on the path of pursuing my career

5.3.5. No More Inferiority Complex! Girls Are Putting Up Good Academic Performance: Ruth Dassah Asserts

Ruth Dassah is a 16-year-old Basic 7 student from Tizza R/C Junior High School in Jirapa Municipality of Upper West Region. She makes a bold commitment in rallying girls to inspire themselves towards achieving excellent academic performance.



“There is a saying that what a man can do, a woman can do better. However, growing up in a community like Tizza, I initially had the belief that I could not compete with my male counterparts in terms of academic performance. In time past, my academic performance was poor. Out of 35 students, I consistently ranked between 26th and 28th in the school examinations. Most of the top performers were boys, while girls often found themselves at the bottom of the rankings. However, joining the Girls' Club revitalized my spirit. Through various activities,

especially the quiz competitions and guidance we receive for effective learning, I made a commitment to turn things around. As a result, my ranking improved significantly from 26th to 15th position during the third term exams of the 2024 academic year.”

5.3.6.Fostering Close Collaboration Between Local Communities and Security Outfits in Tackling Threats of Violent Extremism

The West Africa sub-region has been faced with violent extremist activities over the last few years. Though no remarkable incident has occurred in Ghana yet, its northern borders in particular have remained vulnerable to the threats emanating from Burkina Faso. It is within this context that AAG and its partners joined stakeholders to raise awareness on the warning signs and response mechanisms. In the Upper East Region, our partner BEWDA was supported to facilitate

awareness-raising in six schools situated near the Ghana-Burkina Faso and Ghana-Togo borders. A total of 3,760 pupils (1,820, Girls 1,940) and 40 teachers were reached. Considering the volatile nature of the geographic area connected to the Bawku Chieftaincy crises, the sensitisation also sought to foster a culture of peace and social cohesion among young people in these border communities. Officers from Ghana Immigration Service (GIS) and National Commission on Civic Education (NCCE)s served as the resource persons.

In the Upper West Region, the Community Based Anti-violence Team (COMBAT) rose to the occasion when neighbouring communities in Burkina Faso faced extremist attacks in December 2022 and they fled to seek refuge in adjoining communities in Ghana. Felix Maasanyire, Chairperson of Chettu COMBAT reveals how they collaborated with other authorities to manage the incident around between later part of 2022 and early 2023¹⁵:



“The COMBAT demonstrated remarkable leadership during a time of adversity for immigrants from Burkina Faso fleeing from violent extremism. Despite the uncertainties surrounding the whole violent extremist threats, the COMBAT acted as the community focal point for coordinating the mobilisation and provision of support to over 300 asylum seekers in desperate need of help for more than 30 days. Recognizing the importance of collaboration, the COMBAT partnered with the chief and Assemblymember to link up with the

Security Agencies and Lambussie District Assembly to ensure the safety and well-being of both the asylum seekers and the inhabitants of the community.

As conditions improved in Burkina Faso, the COMBAT team worked closely with the security agencies in seeking the orderly return of the asylum seekers to their homeland. Though COMBATs main mandate revolve around stemming domestic violence issues, the threat of violent extremism has created a necessity for us to focus on that subject matter”.

¹⁵Lambussie: DCE Supports Refugees from Burkina Faso – Upper West Media

5.4.National Campaigns and Policy Influencing Actions

The following are the major strands of ActionAid Ghana's national campaigns and policy influencing actions pursued in 2024.

- Empowering Young Women Leaders
 - § Expanded Young Urban Women's Movement (YUWM) across seven regions, growing membership by 20% to over 5,800.

Trained 60 young women in feminist advocacy, economic rights, and climate justice, significantly increasing their leadership roles and active participation in community and national advocacy.

Salomey Acquah is one of the passionate young advocates of the Young Urban Women Movement (YUWM) whose involvement in the Fund Our Future Campaign created a defining moment for her as she declares:



"I have witnessed first-hand how climate change has drastically impacted my life. The persistent droughts and floods farmers face contribute to soaring cost of food and are prove to the impact of climate change. Young people like me are fighting for decent jobs, and far too many are struggling to meet their basic needs because of the reckless environmentally unfriendly interventions being funded by these banks. Their pollution infiltrates every facet of our lives. Being part of this campaign has strengthened my resolve. It has deepened my understanding of the issues at hand. I am now fully aware of the severe harm these banks are inflicting on our planet. Thanks to the initiative by ActionAid, we young people around the world are rising up to demand climate justice and accountability. I am young, and like countless others globally, our message

is unequivocal: Stop Fossil Fuel Funding and #FundOurFuture."

Youth Activism and Digital Advocacy

- Supported over 100 youth activists, including minority groups, through IGNITE Fund initiatives, including Unbroken, YouthGuard, and digital security projects.
- YouthGuard influenced policy reforms, contributing to the creation of Ghana's first independent Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment by the current government.
- Digital mobilisations during Global Climate Justice campaigns over 7,600 youth were engaged, influencing national dialogues on climate financing and economic equity.

Transformative Feminist Campaigns

- AAG played a central role as an active member of the Affirmative Action Coalition that secured the passage of Ghana's landmark legislation known as the Affirmative Action (Gender Equity) Act, 2024 (Act 1121), after decades of sustained advocacy. The law seeks to significantly advance women's political representation and participation in governance and decision making. Targets set are to achieve a minimum of 30% by 2026, 35% by 2028 and 50% by 2030 in the public sector.
- Successfully campaigned for the anti-witchcraft accusations law, leading high-impact national awareness campaigns, including the widely covered 'Witches in Exile' photo exhibition,

influencing governmental commitment to end witchcraft-related violence. But regrettably, the President failed to sign the Anti-Witchcraft Accusation Bill passed by Parliament, citing constitutional issues, noting that a Private Members Bill cannot impose financial burden on the Consolidated Fund.



Influencing Gender-Responsive Policy

- Actively participated in the advocacy and stakeholder consultative processes for revision and formulation of Ghana's Labour Bill (2024) with a key provision being extending maternity leave from 12 to 14 weeks and introducing paid paternity leave.
- Advocated for integrating ILO Convention 190 standards on workplace harassment and violence in institutional and organisational policies, significantly improving protections for women workers.

Groundbreaking Researches and Advocacy

- Completed comprehensive research demonstrating the disproportionate impact of IMF austerity policies on women, specifically taxes particularly on informal workers, shaping national policy dialogues and media coverage.
- Conducted studies on austerity's impacts on frontline public service workers, informing policy advocacy for gender-sensitive economic reforms in 2025.

Global and Continental Influence

- Co-hosted Ghana's first Business and Human Rights Forum, shaping national contributions to UN treaty negotiations, emphasising gender-responsive corporate accountability.
- Enhanced visibility of Ghanaian grassroots women's voices at continental policy dialogues, notably during the 6th GIMAC AU Engagement, driving advocacy on education financing and climate resilience.



6 COMMITMENT TO SOCIAL MOVEMENT BUILDING











ActionAid's social transformation and systems change strategy is anchored on mobilising collective power to pursue transformative actions at the local, national, and global levels. It is in pursuit of this that Outcome 1.1 of the Strategy Implementation Framework (SIF3) clearly seek to ensure that “a social movement mindset has been built across the federation, so that ActionAid has become a better and trusted partner to progressive social movements”.

AAG has a deep and wide commitment to working in partnerships and strengthening rights-holder led actions through social movement building. As such, we regularly assess the types and quality of partnerships being maintained and their contribution to achieving our shared aspirations. The quest to transition to working with social movements is not to suggest an abrupt end to existing partnerships established with local NGOs over the years. The fundamental principle is that AAG and its partners are called upon to commit to being intentional and courageous in building a movement mindset and a clear orientation towards nurturing and supporting movements-led actions. The approaches will partly depend on context, thus the political space and the state of civil society activism. To this end, AAG has been nurturing and working with various social movements and coalitions.



A social movement mindset has been built across the federation, so that ActionAid has become a better and trusted partner to progressive social movements.

6.1. The Grassroot Social Movements and Peoples' Organisations Being Nurtured

	Smallholder Women Farmers Movement (SHWFM),
	Female Extension Volunteers (FEVs) Networks,
	Young Female Platforms (YFPs),
	Young Urban Women Movement (YUWM),
	Girls Empowerment and Advocacy Platforms (GEAPs),
	Activista (Youth Activists Network),
	Ecovista Movement (Climate Change and Environmental Clubs in Schools),
	Community-Based Anti-Violence Teams (COMBATs) Networks,
	Parent-Teacher Associations (PTA) Networks,
	Children's Parliament.

6.2. The Coalitions and Alliances with Which AAG Pursues its Joint Advocacy and Campaigns



**Tax Justice
Coalition (TJC)**



**Climate Justice
Network**



**Ghana Agroecology
Movement**



**Ghana National Education
Campaign Coalition (GNECC)**



**Northern Network on
Education Development
(NNEED)**



**Ghana Anti-Witchcraft
Coalition**



**Domestic Violence
Coalition**



**Affirmative Action
Coalition**



**Network for Women's
Rights in Ghana (NETRIGHT)**



**Labour Unions such as Teacher Unions Congress (TUC) and
Ghana Agricultural Workers Union (GAWU).**

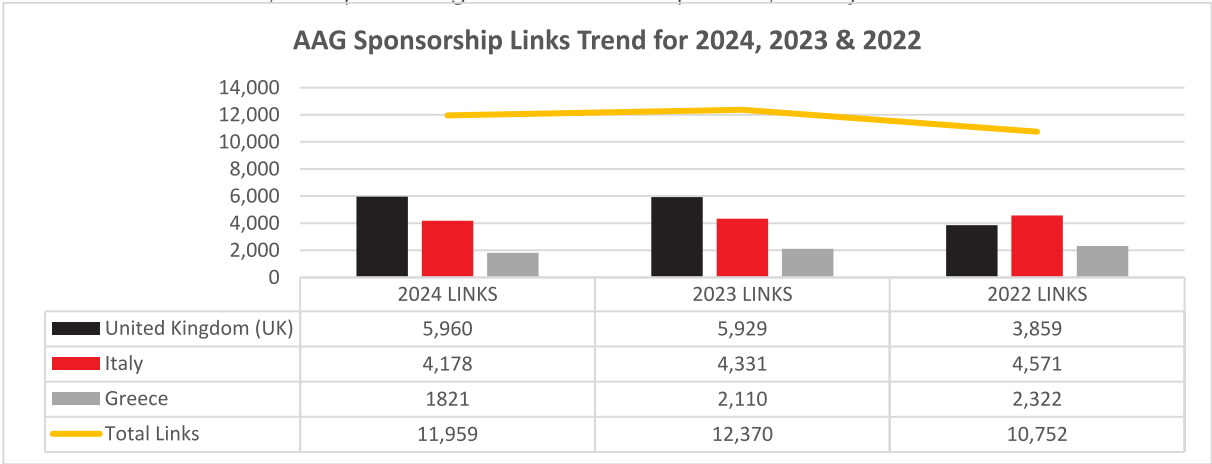
7 CHILD SPONSORSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL FUNDRAISING

AAG funding is derived from three streams namely Child Sponsorship (CS) also referred to Regular Giving, Institutional Partnership raised through project proposals to donor organisations and High-Value Donations raised from individual philanthropists.

7.1 Regular Giving (Child Sponsorship and Next Step)

The regular giving funding portfolio continues to be a key funding source for ActionAid Ghana (AAG), deriving its income from the Child Sponsorship (CS) and Next Step sources.

By the end of December 2024, the total number of sponsorship links, comprising both child and non-child- (Next-Step), stood at 11,959 as against 12,370 transitioned from 2023 to the year, translating into a difference of 411, representing a 3.32% drop. Analysing the 2024 end-of-year links by funding affiliates, the UK links were 5,960 (comprising 4,178 child and 1,650 non-child) representing 50% and little increase of 31 from the 5,929 at beginning of the year. The links from Italy were 4,310 representing 36%, and a 153 drop from 4,331. The Greece links were 1,821 representing 15% and a 289 drop from 2,110 at year start.



In a nutshell, a significant drop came from Greece with a slight drop for Italy, while the UK on the other hand, witnessed a modest increase due to the continued linking of profiles received through the early adopters from links reassigned to AAG during the later part of 2023.

Despite some persisting challenges, AAG continues to demonstrate strong performance in the Child Sponsorship (CS) space and is widely recognized for maintaining high standards in supporter engagement, timely delivery of child profiles, and the production of quality and impactful reports. These efforts have positioned AAG as a high performing country contributing to best practices in child sponsorship management.

To build on these achievements and further enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of CS operations, a series of comprehensive training sessions were organised for staff and key implementing partners across the regions. The training covered a wide range of thematic areas, including the effective use

of the Sahakom (SK) database management system, the adoption and practical use of the Sahakom Mobile App for field-level data collection, digital photography techniques for high-quality child images, data protection principles, and strict adherence to safeguarding standards.

As part of efforts to strengthen our funding base and enhance the visibility of our Child Sponsorship programme, AAG has deepened collaboration with our funding affiliates. In this regard, an Italian sponsor visit was facilitated to programme communities where high-impact stories and campaign documentaries were produced to enhance digital marketing and sponsor recruitment in the affiliate countries. These engagement processes underscore AAG's commitment to transparency, innovation, and the strategic use of digital media to grow supporter engagement and funding by connecting supporters with real stories of transformation in the lives of children and communities across Ghana.

7.2. Institutional Partnerships and High Value Funding

AAG has turned attention to pursuing an aggressive fundraising drive. As part of donor cultivation, AAG had interactions with a number of donor organisations such as Netherlands Embassy, Norwegian Embassy, USAID and GIZ. AAG also made time to attend multi-stakeholder partnership engagements organised by major donor partners

and state actors. Both unsolicited and solicited concept notes and proposals were submitted to various institutional donors including joint submissions at the federation level. Gladly, these efforts yield some good results notably among which are the following:

- A one-year project has been secured from the GIZ Resilience Against Climate Change (REACH) Project, worth One Million Euro for implementation of a sub-project titled Strengthening Community Resilience through Community Action Plans (CAPs) in eight (8) Districts in Upper West and one (1) District in Savannah Region. The interventions revolve around sustainable water management (boreholes, dams and irrigation systems), forest cover restoration (agroforestry and afforestation) and soil health improvement through conservation agriculture (composting and erosion control).
- An unsolicited concept note co-developed with Crossroad International to work around social cohesion and addressing violence extremism in the five regions of northern Ghana received positive consideration from Global Affairs Canada (GAC). A full proposal is to be submitted for possible funding.
- Other concept notes and proposals receive positive feedback signifying great prospects in AAG's quest to widen its funding portfolio.

Appreciably, ActionAid Global Secretariat and fundings affiliates like United Kingdom (UK) offered commendable support to the country team in its fundraising endeavours. For instance, a £45,000 amount sourced from the Opportunity Fund made it

possible for AAG to initiate a review of its fundraising strategy to incorporate current dynamics. That funding was also used to organise a strategic partnership forum on the theme “Mobilising Support for Sustainable Development Alternatives”, which strengthened and reinforced AAG's profile as an impactful funding choice for donors. Notably, the European Union (EU) Ambassador to Ghana and a representative of the United Nations (UN) Resident Coordinator attended the forum, delivered solidarity messages underscoring the importance of partnership with grassroot organisations like AAG for impactful social transformation. AAG used the occasion to recognise the major donors that have funded its interventions which include European Union (EU), Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) of United Kingdom, Medicor Foundation, Hewlett Foundation, People's Postcode Lottery, (PPL), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Australian High Commission.

With regards to its high value funding trajectory, AAG stepped up its efforts to identify and engage corporate organizations and financial institutions for potential collaboration. These engagements focused on opportunities to co-finance existing projects or co-develop new initiatives centered on economic empowerment, women's rights, and education. Notably, institutions such as BARCLAYS and Fidelity Banks have shown interest, and

discussions are ongoing to concretise these positive interactions.

In addition, AAG has continued to strengthen its collaboration with the fundraising units of our funding affiliates to drive high-value funding opportunities. This joint effort includes identifying strategic donors, aligning programme priorities, and developing tailored proposals aimed at securing institutional and corporate support.

In terms of project closures, the implementation of the Transformative Action for Gender Equality (TAGE) Project, funded by the European Union (EU), ended after successful implementation over the period of 2021 to 2024.



8 FINANCE AND EXPENDITURE PERFORMANCE

8.1 Income

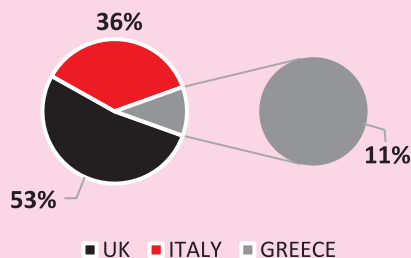
Total income received for 2024 was £1,870,000, which was £60,000 less than planned income for the year, representing a 3% negative variance. Compared to 2023, this year recorded a 25% decrease, largely attributable to decrease in partnership, philanthropy, and institutional income, because two major projects ended.

From Table 1 income analysis below, Individual Giving Income showed a negative variance of 16% compared to planned for the year but 5% increase compared to 2023. The planned income was achieved due because the Global Secretariate could not link all the new profiles to sponsors. However, the increase in individual giving income compared to that of 2023, was as a result of the new profiles linked to sponsors.

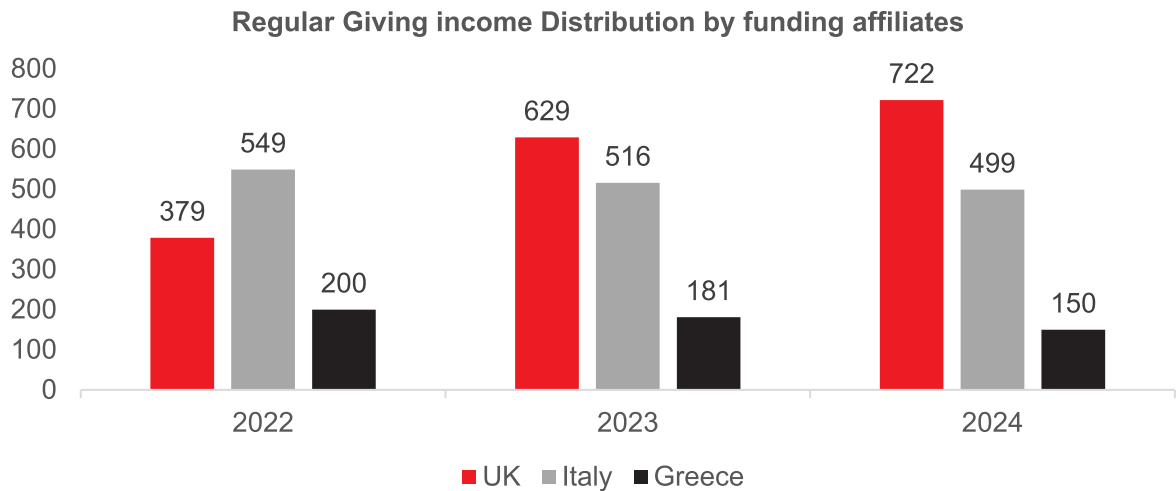
Table 1: Income Analysis for 2024

Income Source	Actual £'000	Plan £'000	Forecast £'000	Var £'000	%	2023	% Change
Individual Giving	1,392	1,652	1,386	260	16%	1,324	5%
Other Products	-	15	0	15	100%	2	
Net transfers	-21	-16	-15	5	-31%	-44	
Partnership-Affiliates	242	181	267	-61	-34%	1,062	-77%
Partnership-Local	214	58	272	-156	-269%	104	106%
Other Income	43	40	33	-3	-8%	45	-4%
Total	1,870	1,930	1,943	60	3%	2,493	-25%

8.2 Individual/Regular Giving



Individual giving income accounted for 73% of the country's income mix for the year and 5% higher than that of 2023. A review of the individual giving streams by the funding affiliates shows that UK contributed 53%, Italy share was 36%, while Greece accounted for 11%.



8.3.Partnership Income

Partnership Income received from affiliates recorded a positive variance of 34%. This is due to the addition of deferred income from 2023. Partnership affiliates' income received during the year was higher than planned by £61,000 but lower than the previous year's income by 77%. Local Partnership income earned was also higher than

planned by £156,000 due to the addition of deferred income during the year. The main source of the local income for 2023 was the Transformative Action in Gender Equality (TAGE) and the administrative overhead recovery income from the Northern Ghana Integrated Development project (NGIDP) both of which were funded by the European Union.

Table 1: Income Analysis

Income Source	Actual	Plan	Forecast	Var	%	2023	% Change
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000			
Individual Giving	1,392	1,652	1,386	260	16%	1,324	5%
Other Products	-	15	0	15	100%	2	
Net transfers	-21	-16	-15	5	-31%	-44	
Partnership-Affiliates	242	181	267	61	-34%	1,062	-77%
Partnership-Local	214	58	272	156	-269%	104	106%
Other Income	43	40	33	-3	-8%	45	-4%
Total	1,870	1,930	1,943	60	3%	2,493	-25%

About 24% of our total income by the end of the year came from partnership income (contracts, donations, and grants) mainly from partnership, philanthropy and institutional sources. The partnership income of £456,000 decreased by £710,000 compared to 2023. The decrease in partnership income was mainly due to the closure of

some projects during the year. The Northern Ghana Integrated Development Project (NGIDP, Combatting Modern Slavery (CMS) project and the Transformative Action for Gender Equality (TAGE) were all closed between 2023 and 2024. Management is, however, making frantic efforts to raise more partnership income during the year.

Table 2: Partnership Income Sources

The income shown in the table below is the actual amount of funding utilized at the end of the year excluding the deferred income under each of the projects. Income deferred at the of the at the end of the year shall be recognized as income for subsequent years when utilized.

PROJECT NAME	DONOR	LOCATION	AAI	LOCAL	TOTAL
			(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)
Northern Ghana Integrated Development Co-Financing	EU /MEDICOR	NR, UER, UWR		84	84
Young Urban Womens Project	HEWLETTE PACKARD	NR, UE, BA, GAVR	136		136
The Donkey Welfare Project	THE DONKEY SANCTUARY	UW	34		34
Tage Project	EU	GARVOP		130	130
The Hills Project	HILLS	GAVORP	20		20
Global Platform, Opportunity Fund, Etc	DENMARK	H/O, ACCRA	52		52
TOTAL			242	214	456



8.4.Expenditure Summary

Total expenditure for the year 2024 was £1,827,000. This was an 97% utilization of the annual budget but was however, £770,000 lower compared to the previous year's expenditure of £2,597,000. Grants and community input constituted 59% of the total expenditure whereas staff cost accounted for 22% of the total expenditure. Based on the statutory cost analysis, programme cost accounted for 67% of the total expenditure for the year. Table 3 below analyses expenditure utilization and associated variances by natural cost in the year under review.

Table 3: Natural cost Analysis (GBP'000)

Natural Costs	Actual	Plan	Forecast	Var	Util %	Prop	2023	%
	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)			(£'000)	Change
Grants and Comm'ty Inputs	1,013	1,112	1,100	99	91%	59%	1,644	-38%
Staff Cost	397	410	400	13	97%	22%	465	15%
Travel and Transport	80	80	90	0	100%	4%	125	36%
Office and Service	303	250	283	53	121%	13%	318	5%
Capital/Others	34	30	34	(4)	113%	2%	45	24%
Total	1,827	1,882	2,369	55	97%	100%	2,597	-30%

Grants and Community inputs expenditure of £1,112,000 was 59% of total expenditure. This represents a 38% decrease in expenditure compared to last year as indicated in the table above. From the table above, total expenditure was £55,000 lower than planned. The lower utilization was as a result of the close down of some projects such as the Combatting Modern Slavery project and the Northern Ghana Integrated Development project and the TAGE project. Even though there was a marginal increase in planned regular-giving income the difference could not compensate for the loss in partnership income. Even though there

was a plough back of exchange gain income into programme expenditure, the 2024 expenditure was still lower compared to that of 2023.

Staff cost expenditure was £397,000 for the reporting year. This represents 22% of total expenditure for the year, but 15% lower than prior year's expenditure of £465,000. Staff cost was lower by £13,000 compared to planned expenditure and £68,000 lower than expenditure for last year. The reduction in staff costs is as a result of the close-out of some projects leading to the end of contract for the project staff. However, staff salaries were increased by an average of 9% during the 1st quarter of the year and also there was payment of one month salary per staff as motivational allowance in December 2024.

Travel and transportation expenditure was £80,000, indicating 100% utilization of planned. This was, however, lower than the 2023 expenditure by 36%. The reduction in travel cost is due to the general decrease in total costs because of the decline in total income even though fuel prices went up during the year.

Office and Service Cost for the reporting year was £303,000. This was £53,000 lower than planned and £10,000 (5%) lower than that of expenditure for 2023. The adverse variance between planned in actual office expenditure was due to the higher inflation rates during the year. The office and service costs were lower for 2024 compared to that of 2023 because of the general decline in project income during the year.

All expenditures were within the expected utilization limits during the year-Community Grants (60), Staff costs (25%) etc.

Below is the graphical distribution of the natural costs for 2022, 2023 and 2023

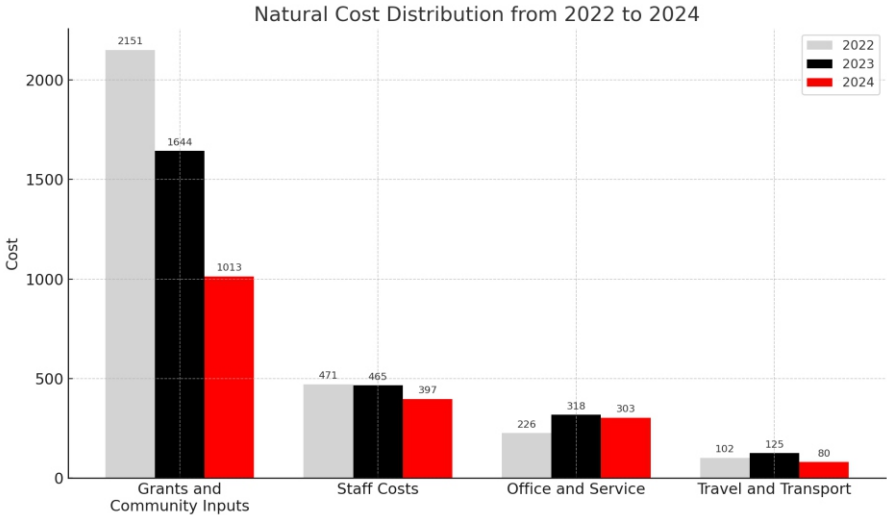


Table 4: Statutory cost Analysis (GBP'000)

Statutory Costs	Actual	Plan	Forecast	Var	Util %	Prop	2023	% Change
Programme>65	1,265	1,275	1,769	10	99%	69%	2,220	-43%
Fundraising<10	128	160	128	32	80%	7%	120	7%
Governance	27	37	42	10	73%	1%	37	27%
Support<15	407	410	430	3	99%	22%	220	-85%
Total	1,827	1,882	2,369	55	97%	100%	2,597	-30%

From the table above, programme cost was 69% of total expenditure which is four percentage points above the Global Secretariate's Key Promise Indicator (KPI) of 65%, while support and governance cost ratio was 22% compared to the GS benchmark maximum rate of 15%. This is a The support costs missed the Key Promise Indicator benchmark of 15% because they were some vehicle breakdowns during the 2nd half of the year coupled with the higher inflation rates in 2024. Support costs were also higher because of the cost of revaluation of the Accra office building and the purchase of office vehicle for the Upper East regional programme.

Fundraising cost, on the other hand, accounted for 7% of total expenditure. Compared to 2023 expenditure, fundraising cost increased by 7%. Governance cost decreased by 27% compared to 2023. The decrease in governance costs can be attributed to the increase in prices of goods and services during the year. The cost of holding meetings during the year were more costly than before.

8.5.Exchange Rate Movements

Planned exchange rate for the reporting year was £1.00 to GH¢8.5287 Average exchange rate for the year was £1.00 to GHS9.9875. The year exchange rate deviation from the plan was 18% and the variance between the opening and year closing rate was about 38%. This indicates the level of depreciation of the local currency to the British Pound.

Year	£	GH¢
Rate at 1st January 2024	1	14.65
Planned rate for 2024	1	14.2752
Average rate for January to December 2024	1	17.0715
Rate as at 31st December 2024	1	19.1676
Planned rate versus Average rate variance	20%	
Variance between opening and closing rates	31%	

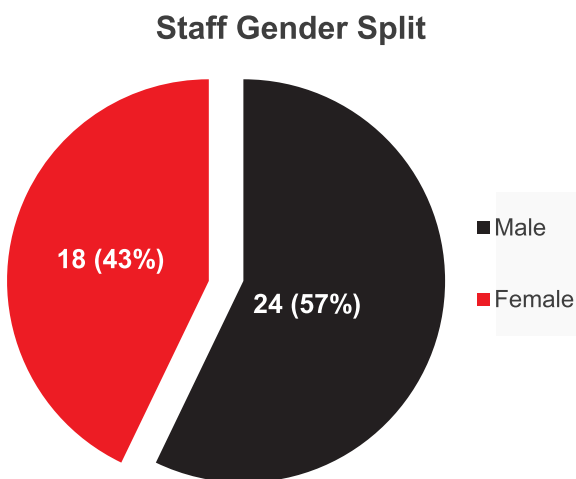
8.6 Systems and Process Improvement

We continue to use the SUN 6.4 from the Global Finance System. We have also been using the Procurement Model (Direct Invoicing) since December 20219. The use of the Procure to Pay model was however, stopped completely at the beginning of the year due to rising cost of the budget-holder-user fees. We currently use only the direct invoicing process of the SUN system.

Several reporting templates linked to the system have also been developed to facilitate reporting and the work of the finance team. An interactive management account dashboard has been designed for producing yearic management accounts. The dashboard is user-friendly and provides insightful information to non-finance staff. Monthly and quarterly management accounts have been produced for senior management within the year. The dashboard has significantly reduced the time spent by the finance team in generating management accounts. All finance staff are go through annual refresher training on the SUN system and the other templates that are used along side the SUN system.

9 HUMAN RESOURCE AND ORGANISATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS (HROE)

This segment of the report presents the staffing information and other major activities implemented under the Human Resources and Organisational Effectiveness (HROE) unit.



The year 2024 ended with total staff strength of 42 comprising 24 males representing 57% and 18 females representing 43%. AAG is relentless and committed to making conscious efforts to bridging the gender gap towards achieving its gender split target of 50:50, which coincidentally aligns with the Ghana's affirmative action target for 2030.

Appreciably, AAG has surpassed the 2026 affirmative action (gender equity) target of 30% women representation and also the 2028 target of 35%. AAG therefore looks forward to fulfilling the ultimate target of 50%, ahead of the 2030 timelines.

9.2. Building Team Cohesion, Prioritising Staff Welfare and Ensuring Safe Working Environment

ActionAid Ghana staff have continuously demonstrated unwavering dedication, team working spirit and commitment towards achieving its mission. Periodic coaching and learning events were organised to inspire professionalism and ensuring the effective and efficient use of logistics for programmes delivery.

Management remained committed to its strategic intent to promote staff wellness and to create a supportive and conducive work environment that leads to utmost productivity. Thus, staff wellness activities were held at the end of each quarter, creating an opportunity for bonding. Staff members were also presented local and international learning opportunities through participation in Conferences, high level meetings and workshops.

AAG has also been very much committed to embedding and ensuring compliance with sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse (SHEA) and

child safeguarding policies, such that no harm is done to child and at-risk adults. Awareness raising remained a strong priority with staff consistently upholding best practices, hence no incident recorded during the year.

As a progressive organisation, AAG's Human Resource Procedure and Policies Manual (HRPPM) was reviewed and approved to reflect the current trends.



10 MAJOR CHALLENGES, REFLECTIONS AND LEARNINGS

Throughout the programme implementation processes, emerging challenges and learnings are documented. By this, successful strategies are noted for replication while pitfalls are also identified to inform the adoption of different strategies in future actions. However, the Participatory Review and Reflection Process (PRRP) is a core component of ActionAid's approach to regularly monitoring and reviewing the progress and outcomes of programme interventions. It also offers an opportunity to appraise multi-stakeholder collaborations. The PRRPs involve in-depth review and reflections with key stakeholders on the progress and lessons emanating from ActionAid's work. It also enhances AAG's relationships with primary stakeholders through the accountability usually rendered on the resources mobilized during the preceding year and how that has been used, especially stemming from our quest to show transparency in the operations of the regular giving (child sponsorship) funding portfolio. Feedback is also received on the efficacy of our programme implementation approaches and suggestions taken on the actions that should be prioritised and implemented in the ensuing year. The PRRPs engagements are usually held with sample communities, partners, key collaborators, representatives of social movements and right-

holder organisations. These processes strengthen rights-based programming, solidarity building, and nurtures ownership of our advocacy and campaign actions.

The following are the major challenges and key learnings that emanated from our 2024 PRRPs.

- Inadequate gender responsiveness of the government's stimulus package to farmers on the 2024 drought: Most smallholder women farmers interacted with reported not registered by the Department of Agriculture (DoAs), hence missed out on the intervention, even though they were equally hit by the dry spell. Such interventions should consciously allocate gender inclusion quotas for intentional targeting of women and other vulnerable people.
- Survival rate of communal afforestation interventions poor: Our field monitoring of the survival rates of trees planted as communal/group plantations shows poor results compared to the agroforestry approach where individual farmers received and planted the trees on their farms. The basic rationalisation is connected to the adage that 'what belongs to everybody, belongs to

nobody', hence little care is given to communally owned assets, whereas individually owned assets are given the needed care due to the full personal benefits that accrues from that. It points to the declining communal spirit, hence the need to rethink group-based interventions especially relating to livelihood opportunities. The supply of economic trees like mango, cashew, moringa and the like also turn to inspire increased care, unlike mere plantation trees like teak and acacia, thus losing sight of the over-riding and broader climate resilience objective. Timely planting is also key to ensuring survival.

- Women still facing difficulties in gaining secured access to and control over productive land: Commercialization of farming is increasing pressure on land acquisition, whereby landlords prefer granting plots of land on monetised leases, thereby gradually squeezing out smallholder women farmers who require little space for cultivation. This is an emerging hinderance to AAG's quest to advance women secured access to and control over productive land. There is a need to re-strategise for engaging the landlords to look beyond commercial interest and prioritize to women.
- School drop-out and child development concerns: The illegal mining (galamsey') debacle is posing a threat to school attendance

as adolescent children, including children under AAG's child sponsorship programme drop out of school to engage in the mining activities under the influence of get-rich-quick. Beyond the child labour implications, this is jeopardizing their education, well-being, and future opportunities and demands urgent intervention to protect children and ensure they remain in school.

- Most basic schools now have weak school governance structures: This largely blamed on the policy restructuring implemented by the previous government's exclusion of teachers from Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs). The policy directive that prohibits schools from charging levies and sacking children of defaulting parents, although well intentioned, has been misconstrued to mean non-contribution by parents school development. The prescriptions of that policy should be reviewed to create an effective mechanism that enables both parents and teachers to work together for school development without hindering the ability of vulnerable children to attend school, even if their parents' default in paying levies.
- Women's representation in the leadership of school governance structures remains low, below 30% in most cases: A study conducted in Upper East Region found no women as PTA

Chairperson as most of them occupy treasurer positions, with only few occupying Secretary or Vice-Chairperson roles. With the passage of the Affirmative Action (Gender Equity) law, there is the need build women capacity, whip up their interest and conscientise communities to increase women representation in leadership roles.

Lack of attention for social inclusiveness: The basic sign language training provided to 40 selected DoVVSU and Social Welfare Officers from the TAGE Project Districts has proven to be a novel and impactful intervention. It however remains a little drop in the ocean as there is the need to scale up to cover almost all districts in Ghana. Beyond this, adding basic sign language knowledge to the curriculum for police recruits training will be commendable and a sustainable approach.



PICTURE GALLERY



A pupil being supported by a nurse to brush his teeth as part of oral health education organised by ActionAid



ActionAid donates Jerseys and football to Dabokpa Faiiya Girls and boys foot ball team with their coaches(teachers)



Mr. Tache and 2nd wife GMF UCW ambassador washing clothes-Chinchang Sissala East



Women calling for greater recognition and support of rural women at a IRWD celebration, Kong, Sissala East



A program participant, harvesting ready to use compost to be applied on her farm. (Photo credit: Segnye-ASUDEV).



State Actors of Human rights joins AAG Thought leadership Conversation on Womens rights and policies Antiwitchcraft bill



A Jirapa JHS girl requesting stakeholders to enact policies ending child marriage and ensuring girls' school completion. (Photo credit: Buta Geoffrey and Team)



Action Aid Ghana's Country Director, at the Wa Stakeholder Conference on Child Marriage, appealing for efforts to end child marriage by enabling girls' school completion.



Basic school students warmly acknowledge delivery of AAG Reproductive Health booklet in the Northern Region



AAG Support WASH infrastructure in 5 basic schools in the Northern region



Climate Justice campaign Launch and sensitisation in BA

