

**Abridged
VERSION**

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**COUNTRY STRATEGY
PAPER (CSP) VII
2023 - 2028**

**Active Citizenship for
Social Justice**



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PAPER (CSP) VII
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Social Justice**

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Statement from the Country Director



I am highly honoured to present to you ActionAid Ghana's (AAG's) Country Strategy Paper (CSP) VII. Having successfully implemented our previous

Country Strategy Paper (CSP) VI for the period 2018 to 2022, under the theme 'People's Power for Social Justice', I am incredibly excited that the AAG Board of Directors reviewed the new CSP VII and duly approved it on the 10th of March 2023 in Accra.

The new CSP is christened 'Active Citizenship for Social Justice' (2023 - 2028) and is largely informed by lessons learned, conclusions and recommendations from AAGs operating context. The strategy has been developed by incorporating the strategic priorities of the ActionAid Federation's

Global Strategy- 'Action for Social Justice'. Drawing from lessons learned and building on our track record, and our decades of community-rooted experience working with social movements within the pre and post Covid-19 era, and Ghana's cultural context, this plan seeks promote AAG's relevance and effectiveness.

Additionally, the widening poverty, gender inequality and increasing injustices around the world call for immediate measures and a community-centred approach towards addressing these development challenges.

The goal of the strategy is to achieve a just, feminist, and resilient Ghana by offering equitable opportunities for all citizens. This essentially requires the alignment of the strategic priorities of all actors and standing in solidarity with vulnerable people, social movements, and people's organisations. 'Active Citizenship for Social Justice' has three (3) Strategic Priorities (SPs) and five (5) Strategic Anchors (SAs) that will provide the right leadership, adequate human,

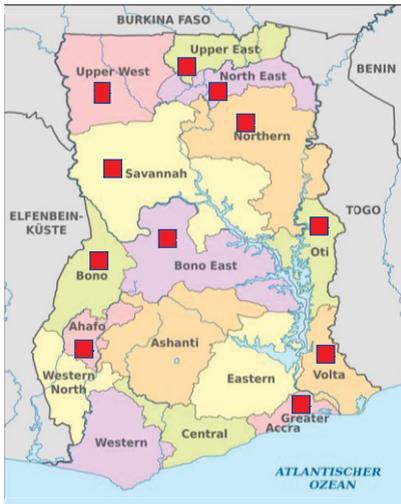
financial and technological resources, appropriate partnerships, and goodwill to support the delivery and achievement of the targets of the SPs, while focusing on the overall vision and mission of the ActionAid Federation.

In this strategy, we have outlined our priorities and areas of focus with an overarching goal of defeating poverty and gender inequality as well as to promote our brand to attract income that is aligned with our principles. Under the CSP VII, we will be pursuing an aggressive fundraising strategy to raise the projected percentage ratio of partnership income and regular giving by 2028.

Finally, the CSP VII has been developed under the strategic guidance of the Board and the contribution of many stakeholders including state and nonstate actors. We therefore deeply appreciate your kind contribution in the cocreation of this strategy.

Thank you!
John Nkaw
Country Director, AAG

ACTIONAID GHANA'S IDENTITY AND OPERATIONAL SCOPE



ActionAid Ghana (AAG) is an affiliate member of the ActionAid Federation working to see a just, fair, and sustainable world in which everybody enjoys the right to 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 oversight role to the organisation governance.

AAG works in the most deprived communities in eleven (11) out of the sixteen (16) regions and forty-six (46) Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies in Ghana. The regions are the Upper East, Upper West, North-East, Savannah, Northern, Bono East, Bono, Ahafo, Oti, Volta and Greater Accra regions

The development philosophy of AAG is centred on the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA). This approach enables AAG to empower and build the agency, galvanise and mobilise right-

holders to use their skills, resources, and existing human rights legislations to demand transparent and accountable governance from duty-bearers. Based on this development approach, AAG works with community members, social movements, grassroot organisations, vulnerable populations and collaborators including CSOs, coalitions, networks, and the media to protect human rights of people, address gender inequalities, challenge and eliminate the barriers to decent work, build resilience against the vulnerabilities of climate change, ensure equitable, fair, and just distribution and redistribution of resources and build power across spatial boundaries, gender, ethnicity and creed.

In Ghana, AAG's operations are organised around five (5) Regional Programmes with offices located at Accra, Sunyani, Tamale, Zebilla and Wa. This makes it possible for us to deliver impactful, inclusive, and sustainable development programmes focusing on grassroots rights awareness raising, right-holder mobilisation and social movement building, capacity development, advocacy, and campaigns. AAG also actively contributes to national and global campaigns that challenges patriarchal, political, and economic systems that perpetuate injustices and gender inequality by tackling structural drivers and triggers of poverty and exclusion. The existence of Global Platform (GP) as AAG's youth mobilisation, capacity building and activism outfit offers unique advantage to fulfilling these programme deliverables.



Mary Paula, 52 is a smallholder farmer championing women's access to productive land at Gozzir in the Upper West region.

AA SIF2 AND INTERLINKAGES TO CSP VII

Pillar 1: Redistribution:

Strategic Objective 1:

To advance economic justice and redistribute women's unpaid care and domestic work through expanding fiscal and policy space and supporting investment in gender-responsive public services and social protection.

Strategic Objective 2:

Advocating for redistributive climate and humanitarian finance: making polluting countries, corporations and the rich pay based on equity and fair shares and ensuring finance reaches those most in need, to enable countries to invest in adaptation, ensure reparations for loss and damage and transition to greener pathways.

Pillar 2: Resilience

Strategic Objective 3:

Promote a feminist, green and just transition [that builds climate resilience] especially in agriculture, led by women and young people.

Strategic Objective 4:

Supporting at risk communities, women and young people to be more resilient to, prepared for and able to respond to all crisis –including, but not limited to economic and climate change related risks.

Pillar 3: Humanitarian and Resilience Work

Strategic Objective 5:

Protracted, Pre-Alert, Orange and Red Alert level Emergencies: Preparedness and Response.

Pillar 4: Rights

Strategic Objective 6:

Strengthening citizen's movements, challenging visible, invisible and hidden power through strengthening and connecting movements, defining and adopting a decolonisation approach, enriching our human-rights based approach, and challenging shrinking space.

AA GLOBAL STRATEGY (SIF2) INTERLINKAGES TO AAG CSP VII

Strategic Priority (SP) 1 which deals with Green Ecology contributes to either Strategic Objective (SO) 2, SO 3, SO 4 or SO 5. SP 2 which deals with Women's Rights contributes either to SO 1 or SO 6 and SP3 also contributes to SO 1 and SO 6.



**Commisioning of the
Sagnarigu Girls Model Primary school (2)**

The Strategic Priorities (SPs) and Focused Areas (FAs)

GOAL: A just, feminist, and resilient Ghana, offering equitable opportunities for all citizens



SP1 Green Economy and Resilient Livelihoods

- **FA1.1:** Promote Agroecology and Food Sovereignty
- **FA1.2:** Expand Access to Green Livelihoods, Renewable Energy and Economic Empowerment Opportunities
- **FA1.3:** Enhance Women's Secured Access to and Control Over Land and Other Productive Resources
- **FA1.4:** Promote Disaster Risk Reduction and Humanitarian Response
- **FA1.5:** Promote Climate Justice that Addresses Loss and Damage



SP2 Women's Rights and Decent Work

- **FA2.1:** Advocate for Zero Tolerance for Violence Against Women and Girls
- **FA2.2:** Campaign for the Recognition, Redistribution and Reduction of the Burden of Care Work (UCW)
- **FA2.3:** Promote Decent Work in both Formal and Informal Workspaces
- **FA2.4:** Promote Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
- **FA2.5:** Promote Access to Existing Social Protection Services

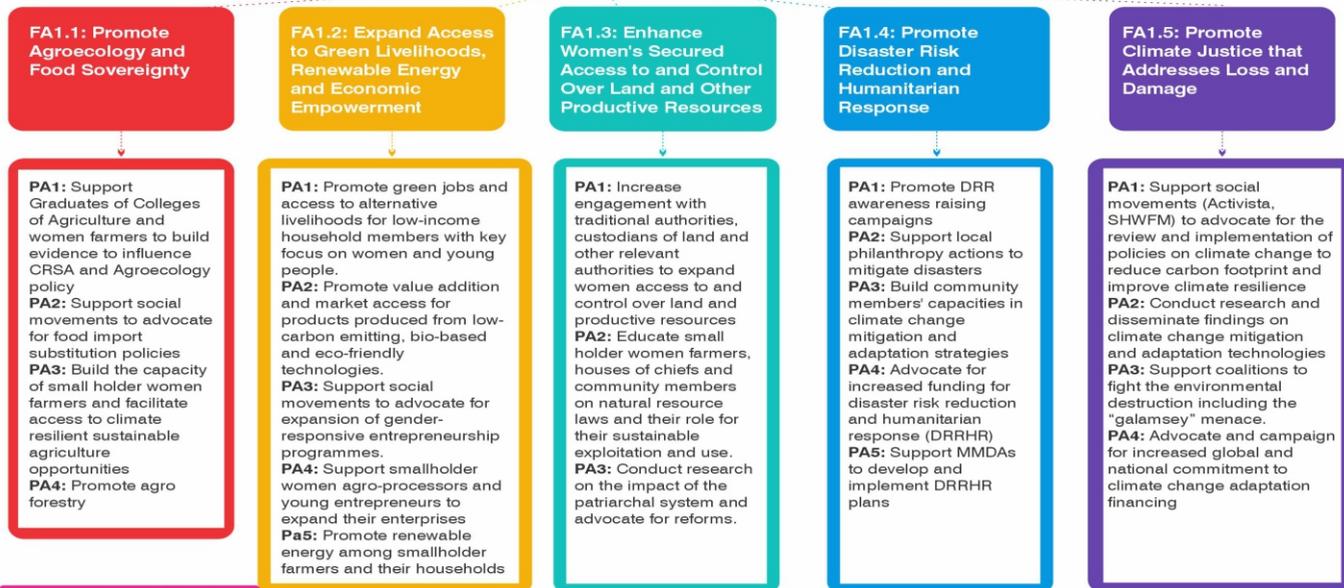


SP3 Active Citizenship, Accountability and Gender Responsive Public Services

- **FA3.1:** Enhance Progressive Mobilisation and Redistribution of Public Resources.
- **FA3.2:** Promote Access to Quality and Gender Responsive Public Basic Education
- **FA3.3:** Promote Access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Services
- **FA3.4:** Promote Active Citizenship and Gender Inclusive Political Participation
- **FA3.5:** Combat Violent Extremism and Conflicts

THE PROGRAMME PLANNED ACTIONS (PAs) AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

SP1: Green Economy and Resilient Livelihoods



Expected Outcomes

1. Ghana's food security guaranteed through the prioritisation and implementation of agroecology and other CRSA policies and programmes.
2. Increased access to clean energy, green sustainable jobs, and resilient livelihood opportunities for especially women and young persons.
3. Increased women access to and control over land and other productive resources.
4. Enhanced capacity of local communities and national disaster management institutions effectively formulating and implementing disaster risk reduction and humanitarian response policies, and programmes.
5. Increased global and national commitments towards fulfilling loss and damage reparations for investment into green and resilient interventions that support adaptation for affected women, young people, and marginalised communities.

SP2: Women's Rights and Decent Work



FA2.1: Advocate for Zero Tolerance for Violence Against Women and Girls

PA1: Mobilise social movements to campaign for passage of Affirmative Action Bill, the Criminal Offences (Amendment) Bill, 2022 and ratification of relevant conventions.
PA2: Liaise with coalitions and networks to advocate for adequate funding for GBV institutions and more shelters for survivors
PA3: Build capacity of social movements and the media to raise awareness on incidences of GBV
PA4: Invest in research to understand the changing nature of violence against women and how to ensure dignity and gender equality

FA2.2: Campaign for the Recognition, Redistribution and Reduction of the Burden of Unpaid Care Work (UCW)

PA1: Advocate for more investments in childcare centres by MMDAs
PA2: Raise awareness on the effects of UCW on women and need to recognise, redistribute, and reduce UCW of women
PA3: Invest in evidence-based research to support advocacy actions on UCW
PA4: Support coalitions and networks to advocate for the inclusion of the contribution of UCW to GDP by GSS and MoFEP

FA2.3: Promote Decent Work in both Formal and Informal Workplaces

PA1: Build partnership with media and social movements to campaign against all forms of modern slavery
PA2: Partner with the CAG, GAWU, PFAG to advocate for the establishment of a Ghana Agribusiness Regulatory Authority.
PA3: Partner with the TUC and other CSOs to advocate for and contribute to reviewing the Labour Act, 2003 and ensure its implementation especially in the informal sector to guarantee decent work

FA2.4: Promote Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights

PA1: Build capacity of YFPs, COMBATS, YUWM, Activista, GEAP, Girls Clubs etc to advocate for increased access to SRHRs for adolescent girls
PA2: Advocate for strengthening delivery of the SHEPs and GEUs mandates.
PA3: Invest in technology to improve access to SRHR information for women and girls.
PA4: Advocate for the provision of adolescent-friendly reproductive health services

FA2.5: Promote Access to Existing Social Protection Services

PA1: Strengthen informal social protection schemes in AAG communities
PA2: Advocate for expansion and adequate targeting of national social protection programmes in Ghana (LEAP, NHIS, GSFP, LIPWs, Disability Fund etc)
PA3: Monitor and track pro-poor spending under the IMF programme
PA4: Support community-based social protection schemes

Expected Outcomes

1. Decreased incidences of VAWGs in AAG communities
2. Increased recognition, redistribution, and reduction in UCW.
3. Decreased modern slavery practices and phenomenon of indecent work
4. Decreased in the number of girls dropping out of school due to pregnancy
5. Improved access to formal and informal social protection services

SP3: Active Citizenship, Accountability and Gender Responsive Public Services



FA3.1: Enhance Progressive Mobilisation and Redistribution of Public Resources

PA1: Partner with the Tax Justice Coalition to advocate for a "wealth tax" and progressive taxation policies in Ghana
PA2: Partner with Tax Justice Coalition, Ghana Integrity Initiative, and other anti-corruption agencies to track government financial irregularities and the implementation of the new Tax Exemption Act, 2022
PA3: Collaborate with NCCE, GRA to raise awareness on the need to pay taxes and improve IGAs of MMDAs.
SA4: Collaborate with the GEPA and private enterprises to expand trade under the AU, (AfCFTA)

FA3.2: Promote Access to Quality and Gender Responsive Public Basic Education

PA1: Raise awareness on School re-entry policy for pregnant girls and CBE and advocate for increased funding for these policies.
PA2: Strengthen school accountability structures (PAs, SMCs and DEOC etc)
PA3: Partner with DSW and others to advocate for investments in Early Childhood Development facilities
PA4: Partner with other national and influential CSOs to campaign for an increase in the basic education share of the annual education budget
PA5: Advocate for increased investments in TVET

FA3.3: Promote Access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Services

PA1: Build the capacity of WATSAN committees to manage community water and sanitation infrastructure.
PA2: Support advocacy actions to improve WASH in communities and schools
PA3: Build capacity of community members in water harvesting and conservation technologies.
PA4: Raise awareness against Open Defecation and Disposal of waste

FA3.4: Expand structures for Political participation and representation

PA1: Support actions by the GJA, CSOs and other media coalitions to improve media freedom in Ghana.
PA2: Mobilise social movements to campaign for passage of Affirmative Action Bill.
PA3: Build capacity of social movements, women, and youth groups to participate in the development and implementation of MTDPs and national policies and programmes
PA4: Build capacity of women, persons with disability and other minorities to participate in political decision-making structures at local and national levels to address the under-representation gaps

FA3.5: Combat Violent Extremism and Conflicts

PA1: Partner with the National Peace Council, Houses of Chiefs and CSOs to reduce incidences of conflicts to propel inclusive development
PA2: Collaborate with youth, traditional authorities, MMDAs and mining and other natural resource entities to prevent natural resource conflicts
PA3: Partner with sub and regional bodies and INGOs to support the "Silencing the Guns Programme" of the AU and other combatting of violent extremism activities.

Expected Outcomes

1. Increased in government revenue and its prudent and accountable utilisation.
2. Increased access to quality and gender responsive basic education and other childhood development opportunities.
3. Improved access to WASH services in schools and communities.
4. Increased women and minority groups representation in political decision-making structures at local and national level.
5. Reduced threats of violent extremism and decrease in incidences of violent conflicts.



THINK YOU KNOW CLIMATE CHANGE?

THINK AGAIN

"FundourFuture"
Climate Change conference held in Accra

THE STRATEGIC ANCHORS (SAs) AND PLANNED ACTIONS (PAs)

Goal

A just, feminist, equitable and resilient Ghana, offering opportunities for all citizens



THE CSP VII THEORY OF CHANGE (ToC)

Problem Statement

- Tackling climate change require concerted actions by local communities, national authorities, and global commitment.
- Patriarchy and negative socio-cultural norms subjugate women, girls, young people, and also exposes other vulnerable groups such as alleged witches, persons with disabilities and widows, to social, economic, and political rights violations.
- Many women still face limitations, suffer marginalisation, and inequity in terms of access to and control over productive resources such as land, capital, and other resources.
- Women and girls are not fairly represented in decision making spheres.
- Addressing such systemic injustices and gender biases require the design and implementation of evidence-based public engagements, advocacy, campaigns and influencing actions that will trigger attitudinal change, policy and legal reforms and resource redistribution. Tackling youth unemployment and violent extremism have become key developmental concerns.

CSP VII Goal (Impact)

A just, feminist, and resilient Ghana, offering equitable opportunities for all citizens

Outcomes

OC1.1: Ghana's food security guaranteed through the prioritisation and implementation of agroecology and other CRSA policies and programmes.
OC1.2: Increased access to clean energy, green sustainable jobs, and resilient livelihood opportunities for especially women and young persons.
OC1.3: Increased women access to and control over land and other productive resources.
OC1.4: Enhanced capacity of local communities and national disaster management institutions effectively formulating and implementing disaster risk reduction and humanitarian response policies, and programmes.
OC1.5: Increased global and national commitments towards fulfilling loss and damage reparations for investment into green and resilient interventions that support adaptation for affected women, young people, and marginalised communities.

OC2.1: Decreased incidences of VAWGs in AAG communities and Ghana at large.
OC2.2: Increased recognition, redistribution, and reduction of the burden of UCW on women and girls.
OC2.3: Decreased modern slavery practices and phenomenon of indecent work.
OC2.4: Decreased in the number of girls dropping out of school due to pregnancy, child marriages and other related factors.
OC2.5: Improved access to formal and informal social protection services.

OC3.1: Increased in government revenue and being prudently and accountably utilised.
OC3.2: Increased access to quality and gender responsive public basic education and other childhood development opportunities.
OC3.3: Improved access to WASH services in schools and communities.
OC3.4: Increased representation and participation of women and other minority groups in political and general decision-making spheres at local and national level.
OC3.5: Reduced threats of violent extremism and decrease in incidences of violent conflicts.







Oko Kotey Link, East Legon.
P. O. Box AN 19083,
Accra-North. Ghana
Tel: +233 (0) 302544714/5
Fax: +233 (0) 302764930

 aaghana@actionaid.org
 ghana.actionaid.org
    [actionaidghana](https://www.youtube.com/actionaidghana)

act!onaid
<https://ghana.actionaid.org/>