

An aerial photograph of a lush green forest. A winding road curves through the trees, and a straight road runs along the right edge. The text 'ANNUAL REPORT' is centered in white, with '2023' below it in yellow.

ANNUAL REPORT

2023

Prepared For :
NATURE AND DEVELOPMENT
FOUNDATION

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***It is possible to bring a halt to
further degradation of forest
resources and loss of
biodiversity across West Africa.***

Dir. Mustapha Seidu

An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road cutting through a dense, lush green forest. The road curves from the bottom left towards the top right. In the center of the curve, there is a small structure or sign. The forest is thick with various shades of green, indicating a healthy ecosystem. The lighting suggests it's daytime, with some shadows cast by the trees.

Nature & Development Foundation

Introduction

The organization has made significant strides in promoting nature conservation and sustainable development, and we are excited to share our progress over the past year.

Nature and Development Foundation is dedicated to preserving the environment and fostering sustainable practices for the benefit of present and future generations.

Our organization works tirelessly to protect natural habitats, promote biodiversity, and support local communities in their efforts towards sustainable development.

Vision

We strive to see a society in which human development and nature conservation complement each other..

Mission

Our mission is to promote responsible land use and conservation of biodiversity for the benefit of people through field demonstrations and partnerships based on science.

We believe that by conserving our natural resources and promoting sustainable practices, we can ensure a better future for both people and the planet.

Organization Overview



NATURE AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

A modest non-governmental organization in Ghana with partners across West Africa. NDF's unique way of working combines collaboration with government, local community, private sector, industry associations and other civil society bodies in delivering innovative solutions to meet the needs of people while ensuring conservation of natural resources.

For over eight (8) years, NDF has been working to ensure legality compliance within the timber industry in Ghana and the west African sub-region.

Actions have been geared towards curbing illegal logging by restricting the market for illegally sourced wood. NDF's efforts are contributing to halt further degradation of forests and loss of biodiversity in Ghana and across West Africa.



Bringing ideas & innovation to life through technology and agriculture



OUR SCOPE



AGRICULTURE



COMMUNITY



WILDLIFE



TIMBER INDUSTRY



PLANTATION



ACHIEVEMENT AND IMPACT

Over the past year, Nature and Development Foundation has achieved significant milestones in our conservation and development efforts. Through our various projects and initiatives, we have:

- Engaged with local communities to promote sustainable livelihoods and empower them as stewards of their natural resources. Through capacity-building programs and training, we have helped communities adopt sustainable practices that benefit both their well-being and the environment.
- Collaborated with government agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders to advocate for policies and regulations that support nature conservation and sustainable development. Our efforts have contributed to the formulation and implementation of key environmental policies at local, national, and international levels.

- Raised awareness about the importance of nature conservation and sustainable development through educational campaigns, workshops, and community outreach programs. By fostering a sense of environmental responsibility, we have inspired individuals and communities to take action and make a positive impact.



I Planted a tree and it
SURVIVED



MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIRPERSON

MS. GABRIELLA KORANTENG

I am proud and appreciative of the opportunity to acknowledge the efforts NDF is making in the forest and wildlife sector to promote nature conservation and livelihood development in Ghana and across West Africa.

For the past ten years, NDF has led the charge in preventing illicit logging, guaranteeing legality compliance in the timber sector, and defending our country's priceless natural resources. Our cooperative strategy, which unites government agencies, regional communities, business associates, trade associations, and civil society organizations, has proven crucial in producing creative solutions that satisfy the demands of our populace while protecting the environment.

Our capacity to collaborate with a wide spectrum of national and international stakeholders, in the interest of sustainable development and forest management, is what makes us strong.

By working together, we have not only prevented additional forest degradation but also significantly aided in the promotion of biodiversity conservation throughout the country.

At NDF, our actions are driven by the conviction that nature protection and human development are inextricably intertwined. We stay at the forefront of sustainable developmental projects in Ghana and to a large extent West Africa, because of the experience and work ethic based on global best practices gained from our WWF history.

As we move forward, let's reaffirm our dedication to enlisting the support of important stakeholders, cultivating tactical alliances, and carrying out initiatives that advance sustainable land use practices throughout the area. Together, we can continue to engender constructive change and create a future where nature and humans coexist in harmony.

We appreciate your steadfast commitment to realizing our common goal and your support. ”



MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR

MUSTAPHA SEIDU

December 2023 marked Ten years anniversary of the formation of Nature and Development Foundation with enviable achievements in advocacy and capacity building in the forest sector in West Africa.

This 2023 annual report summarizes the activities implemented in the year. We are excited to have embarked on the journey of creating a valuable organization in the Nature and Development Foundation to step in the shoes of WWF in Ghana and the West Africa subregion.

Although challenging, myself, Glen Asomaning, and Abednego Danso, of blessed memory, have no regrets about choosing that pathway ten years ago. The choice of advocating for sustainable practices in the forest and forest risk commodities sectors is still a priority today as it was ten years ago.

Notwithstanding our happiness at choosing the path of creating a vibrant civil society organization, the problem of Ghana's forest sector has not become any less. On the contrary, the threat to forest and biodiversity conservation has become compounded by an expanding mining sector, agriculture, and demand for more wood.

The organization, in collaboration with partners, has made significant strides in repealing the law and safeguarding the forests for future generations. Initiatives like "Living with Wildlife" and "Savannah Integrated Biodiversity Conservation Initiative" demonstrate our commitment to wildlife conservation and community empowerment.

The "Atebubu-Wiase Forest Landscape Restoration" project focuses on ecological restoration and climate resilience. However, challenges remain, including legislative hurdles and gender disparities.

In conclusion, I urge each one of us to redouble our efforts, amplify our voices, and mobilize our resources towards creating a future where humanity coexists harmoniously with nature.

Together, let us strive for a world where forests flourish, wildlife thrives, and communities prosper ”

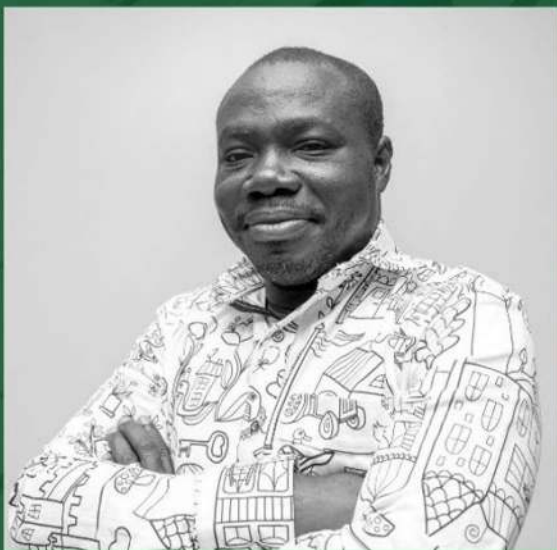
BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Ms. Gabriella Koranteng
Board Chairperson



Mustapha Seidu
Director



Glen Asomaning
Director Of Operations



Agyeman Humphrey
Board Member

OUR SUPER TEAM



Mustapha Seidu
Director



Glen Asomaning
Director Of Operations



Emmanuel Nasangma
Finance & Administration Manager



Margaret Appiah
Senior Projects Manager



Kingsley Twumasi
Senior Projects Officer



Abudu Imurana
Finance & Account Officer



Amoah Reuben
Field Officer



Apaliya Cephas
Field Officer



Dynna Gorham Marfo
Project Officer



Yvonne Yemoh
Project Officer

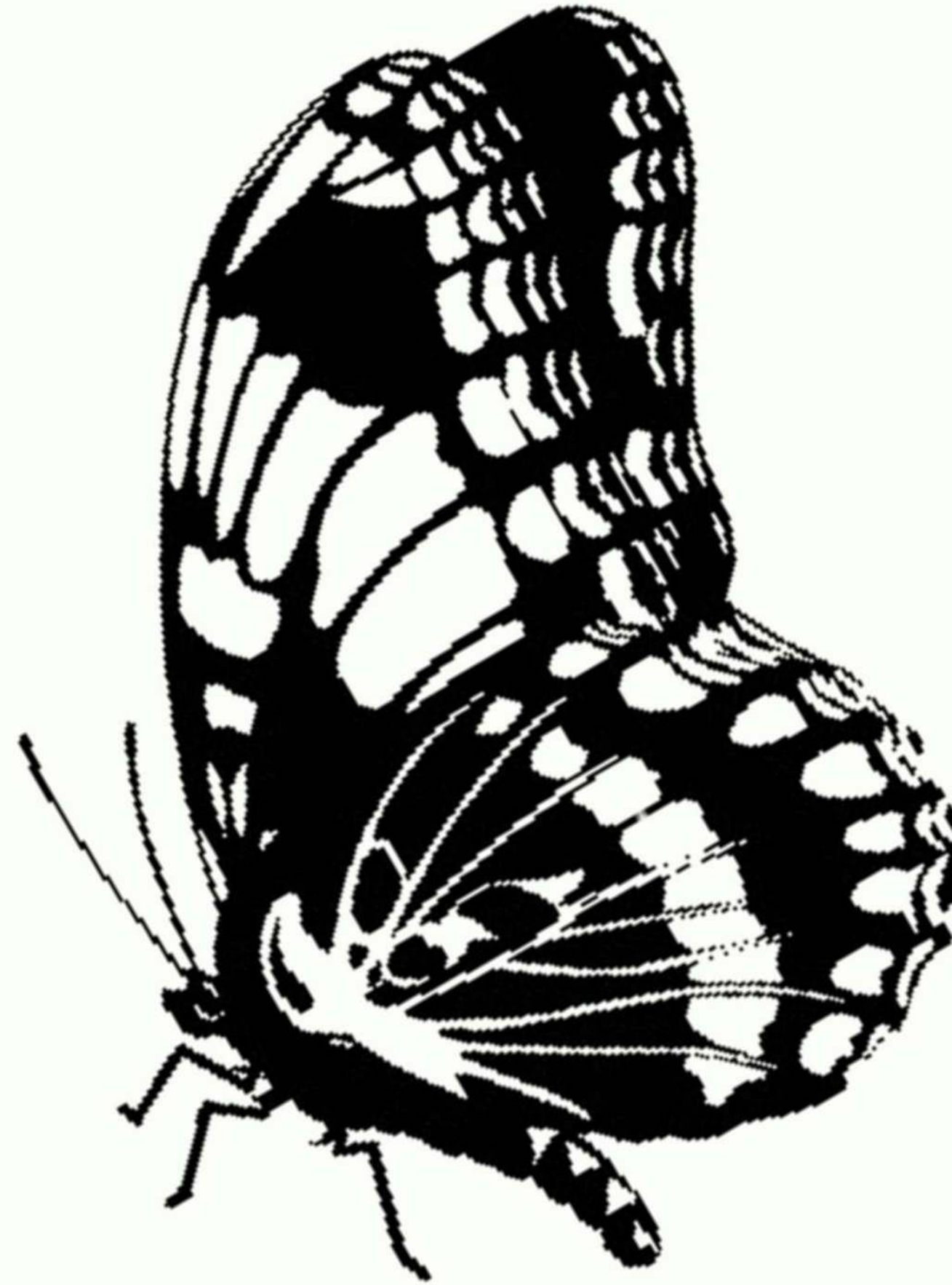


Emmanuel Agbodza
Chief Transport Officer



Obed Yaoseh
Communications Officer

OUR PROJECTS



A PICTURE OF
BENEFICIARY
FIELD
MONITORING
TO PROJECT
SITES.



LIVING WITH WILDLIFE:
IMPROVING LIVELIHOODS IN THE MOLE ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE

The Mole National Park faces high levels of poaching and illegal wildlife trade due to low law enforcement officers and poor participatory management between the park and surrounding communities.

- This project aims to empower park-fringing communities for increased benefits and participatory wildlife management of the Mole National Park.
- The project is training and supporting men and women in the two CREMAs to implement nature-based sustainable livelihood measures as a way of reducing poverty and inequality.
- The project is also embarking on actions to increase productivity of farms and climate change resilience through development of agroforestry systems.
- The project also aim to strengthen collaborative wildlife management with park-fringing communities by building capacity and capabilities of targeted CREMAs.

The expected outcomes include

- Better farming & increased yield,
- Increased income for community members,
- Renewed relationships between communities and park management,
- Increased law enforcement and patrols, and
- Decreased poaching pressure on wildlife in the park.





ACHIEVEMENTS THUS FAR.

End of December 2023

- 100 women trained on using Shea Roller Technology
- 40 beneficiaries trained in Apiculture and supported with 80 bee hives and associated sets of equipment.
- Executives of the Chakali-Sungmaaluu CREMA trained on CREMA management, law enforcement, gender, leadership and Wildlife law of Ghana.
- 40 beneficiaries trained in sustainable rodent farming and each equipped with a cage stocked with rodents

TESTIMONIAL

Beneficiaries of a sustainable livelihood intervention of the project, have pledged to abandon hunting practices within the Mole National Park.

Their stories serve as a powerful testament to the project's success in uplifting communities from poverty to conserving wildlife.

[Click to watch beneficiary video](#)

Duration

2023 - 2026.

Donor





THE ATEBUBU-WIASE
FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION
(AWFLR)

PROJECT PROFILE

The Atebubu-Wiase Forest Landscape Restoration (AWFLR) project is part of a global network of Living Labs for Nature, People and Planet established by the Circular Bioeconomy Alliance (CBA). The CBA was established in 2020 by His Majesty King Charles III (formerly His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales) and aims to accelerate the transition to a circular bioeconomy that is climate neutral, inclusive and prospers in harmony with nature. The Atebubu and Wiase project is the first Living Lab to be established and is funded by AstraZeneca.

The Atebubu-Wiase Forest Landscape Restoration (AWFLR) project aims to restore 4,500 hectares of natural forests in degraded areas and 3,780 hectares of agroforestry and regenerative agriculture to reduce pressure on natural forests, improve land productivity, and boost incomes for smallholder farmers.

The project aims to foster ecological and landscape resilience over 10 years and build adaptive capacity for long-term sustainability.

The project is implemented by iNovaland, African Plantations for Sustainable Development (APSD), New Generation Plantation Technical Assistance (NGPTA), and Nature and Development Foundation (NDF).

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The project's objectives include fostering community resilience, building adaptive capacity, and ensuring long-term sustainability of forest landscape restoration.



ACHIEVEMENTS

As part of the community engagement, NDF in collaboration with the Agriculture Department in Atebubu-Wiase Landscape trained new communities added to the project on good agronomic practices in cashew and mango production (before the planting season started).

The NDF also collaborated with the Ghana National Fire Service in Atebubu and Wiase to train project communities on fire management and prevention at the community level.

Four (4) multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) meetings took place in 2023 led by Nature and Development Foundation (NDF) making a total of eight (8) MSP meetings held under the project.

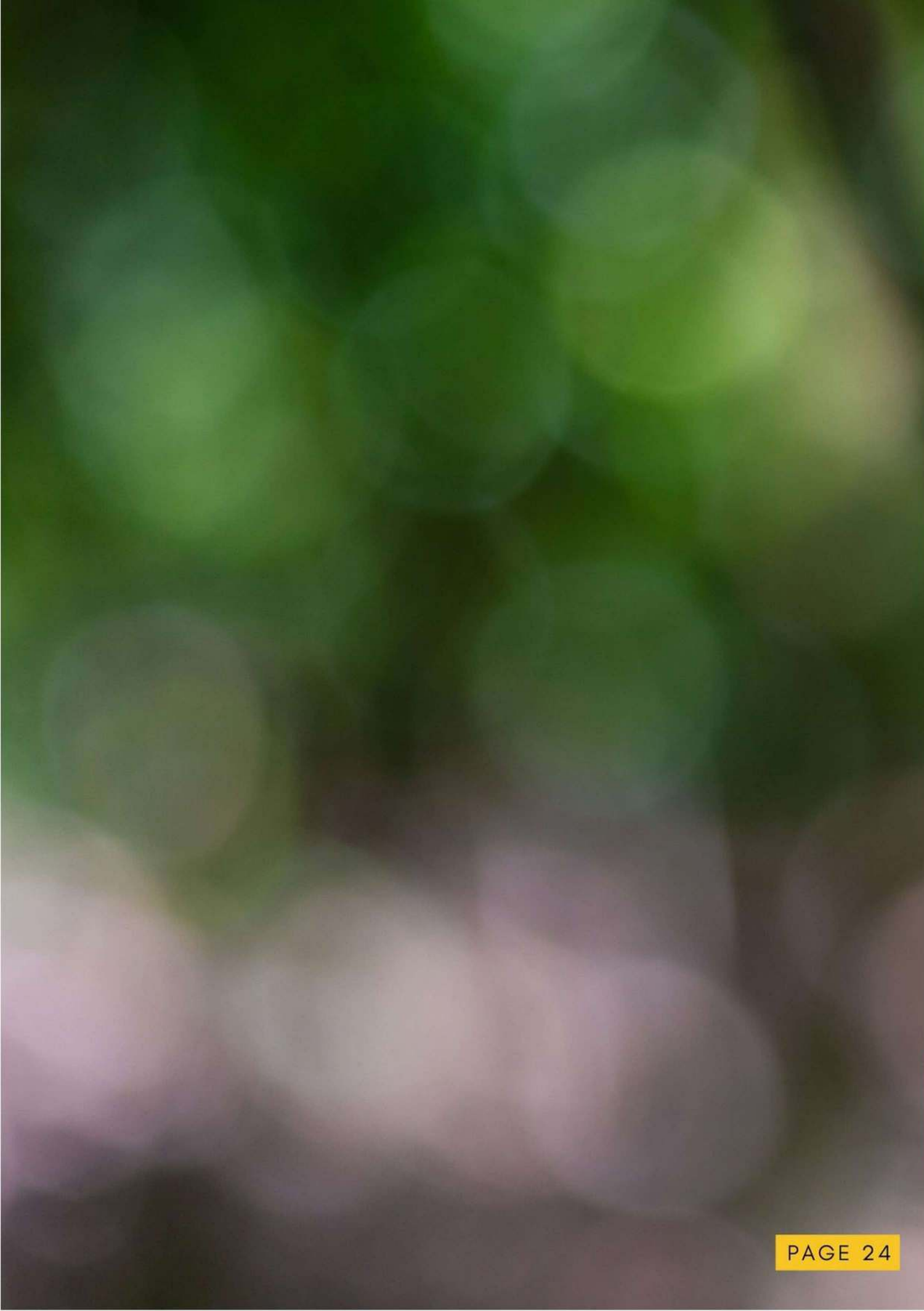


Duration

Active implementation is taking place over five years (2021-2025) and monitoring will continue for up to 10 years.

Donor





COFORM

**COCOA FOREST MOSAIC FOR
PEOPLE AND ECOSYSTEM
RESILIENCE**



COCOA FOREST MOSAIC FOR PEOPLE AND ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE

Cocoa is a crucial part of Ghana's economy and poverty reduction strategy. However, deforestation and forest degradation pose challenges to environmental sustainability.

This reduces the natural population of beneficial insects pollinating cocoa plants.

To address this, sustainability projects and programs, such as COFORM, aim to reduce emissions, improve small-holder farmers' livelihoods, and make the cocoa and forestry sectors more resilient.

These initiatives aim to combat biodiversity loss and promote climate-smart cocoa production.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To enhance the agroforestry practices of local farmers to better their means of subsistence
- To decrease susceptibility of climate change impact through incorporation of carbon stock trees on farms.
- To intensify forest cover and improve biodiversity.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Farmers trained on new techniques to build resilience and promote cocoa sustainability.
- 85.1% success rate at end of training indicates farmers' understanding of climate smart cocoa.
- Farmers fully engaged to meet project objectives.

ACTIVITIES

Underlisted are the activities that contributed to the effective implementation of the project.

- Identification and selection of farmers - In collaboration with EMFED farms, 102 farmers from seven (7) communities were engaged and showed willingness to partake in the project.
- Mapping of Selected farms - All selected earmarked plots were successfully mapped to ensure that farms are not within a forest reserves. A total of 157.88 ha (390.2 acres) of farm lands at the end of the activity was recorded.
- Supply of 3060 timber trees and 100 fruit trees to the selected 102 farmers and supervise for planting. Each farmer grew 30 timber trees and fruit trees per hectare.
- Training for farmers on climate smart cocoa, good agronomic practices and child labor.
- Monitoring of planted trees to quantify the success rate of the trees planted at the end of the year.



Project Duration
2022- 2025

Donor



Overall, the COFORM Project appears to have made significant strides in its first year, laying a solid foundation for future efforts in promoting sustainable cocoa production in the country.



SIBCI:

SAVANNAH INTEGRATED BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

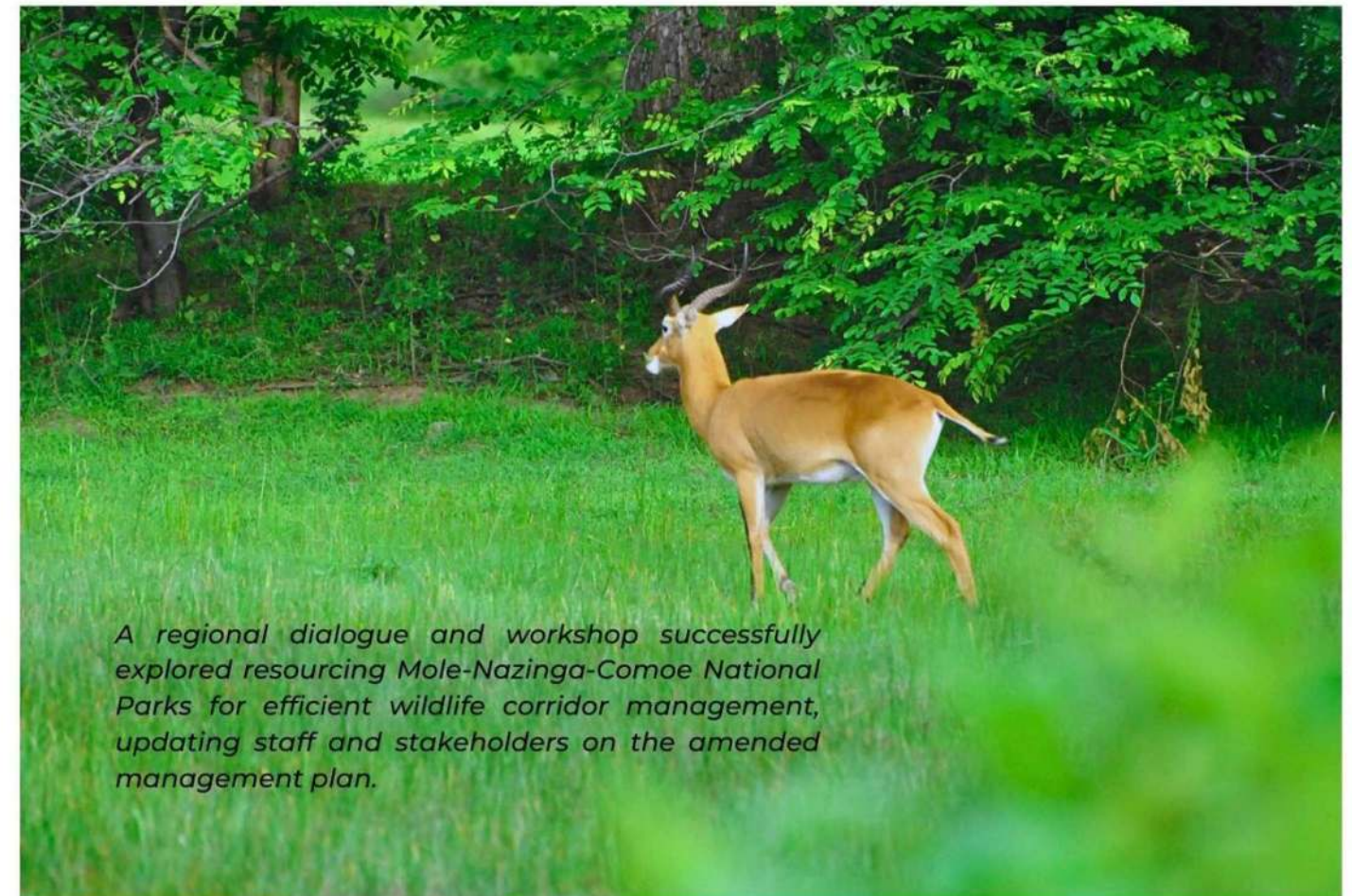
OVERVIEW

The overall objective of the action (Savannah Integrated Biodiversity Conservation Initiative) is to contribute to the achievement of endogenous, sustainable and inclusive economic development that responds to the challenges of climate change.

The action is also to improve sustainable, participatory and integrated management of the Mole National Park (MNP) towards biodiversity conservation and resilience to climate change.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- A regional dialogue which sought to discuss avenues of resourcing Mole-Nazinga-Comoe National Parks for effective management of their common Wildlife Corridors was successfully organized.
- A workshop that brought essential Staff and Stakeholders to Speed on Management prescriptions of the recently updated management plan of Mole National Park.



A regional dialogue and workshop successfully explored resourcing Mole-Nazinga-Comoe National Parks for efficient wildlife corridor management, updating staff and stakeholders on the amended management plan.



SANKOFA PROJECT
EMPOWERED BY ALLIANCE ACTION



PROJECT PROFILE

The Sankofa project, launched in 2019, is a multi-stakeholder initiative in Ghana aimed at enhancing farmers' quality of life through climate-smart agriculture.

Funded by the International Trade Centre, the project is implemented by various partners, including the Swiss and Danish governments, Swiss chocolate manufacturer Halba, Coop Switzerland, the ITC, and Fairtrade Max Havelaar Switzerland.

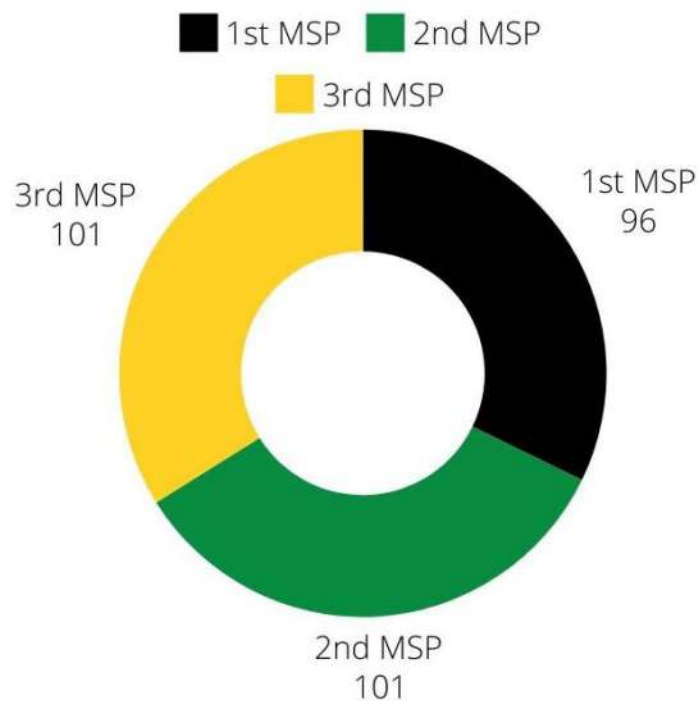
The project uses the "dynamic agroforestry" (DAF) method, a combination of agricultural cultivation and agroforestry, to promote income diversification, climate resilience, and biodiversity conservation. The project is working with Kuapa Kokoo Farmers Union to train farmers in three districts and two regions on DAF installation.

MULTI STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM MEETINGS

Sankofa 2.0 required active dialogue with various stakeholders, leading to the creation of a multi-stakeholder platform.

This platform aims to discuss project implementation, impact on farmers, identify challenges, mitigation measures, opportunities, and promote sharing of experiences, knowledge, skills, and innovations.

A quarterly platform meeting was held to bring stakeholders together.



Three (3) MSP, meeting have been organized so far details of which have been presented in the chart above.

SCHOOL'S ENGAGEMENT AND TEACHERS TRAINING

The project involves engaging students in 15 basic schools in the Asunafo North, Asunafo South, Bibiani-Anwiaso-Bekwai Municipal/District assemblies on environmental stewardship and tree planting.

With the Ghana education service's permission, 15 schools in Sankofa communities were selected. Headmasters nominated a link teacher to form an environmental club.

Two meetings were organized for teachers, providing information on project objectives and training on tree planting and nurturing. Teachers formed 15 environmental clubs, providing training sessions for children on environmental stewardship and tree planting.



ANNUAL MEETING WITH THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES

As part of the project, a meeting was held at the business resource Centre in Goaso on the 13th of April 2023.

The participants present in the meeting were mainly representatives from Fair Trade Africa (FTA), International Trade Centre (ITC), Kuapa Kokoo Farmers Union (KKFU), Nature and Development Foundation (NDF), Cocobod, Forestry Commission (FC), Asunafo South District Assembly, Asunafo North District Assembly, Sefwi-Anwiaso Bekwai District Assembly and Agriculture Department.



DAF - DYNAMIC AGROFORESTRY

DAF method in Ghana, aiming to enhance farmers' lives through climate-smart agriculture. It utilizes a multi-stakeholder approach to scale up previous efforts, focusing on income diversification, climate resilience, and biodiversity conservation.



Donors

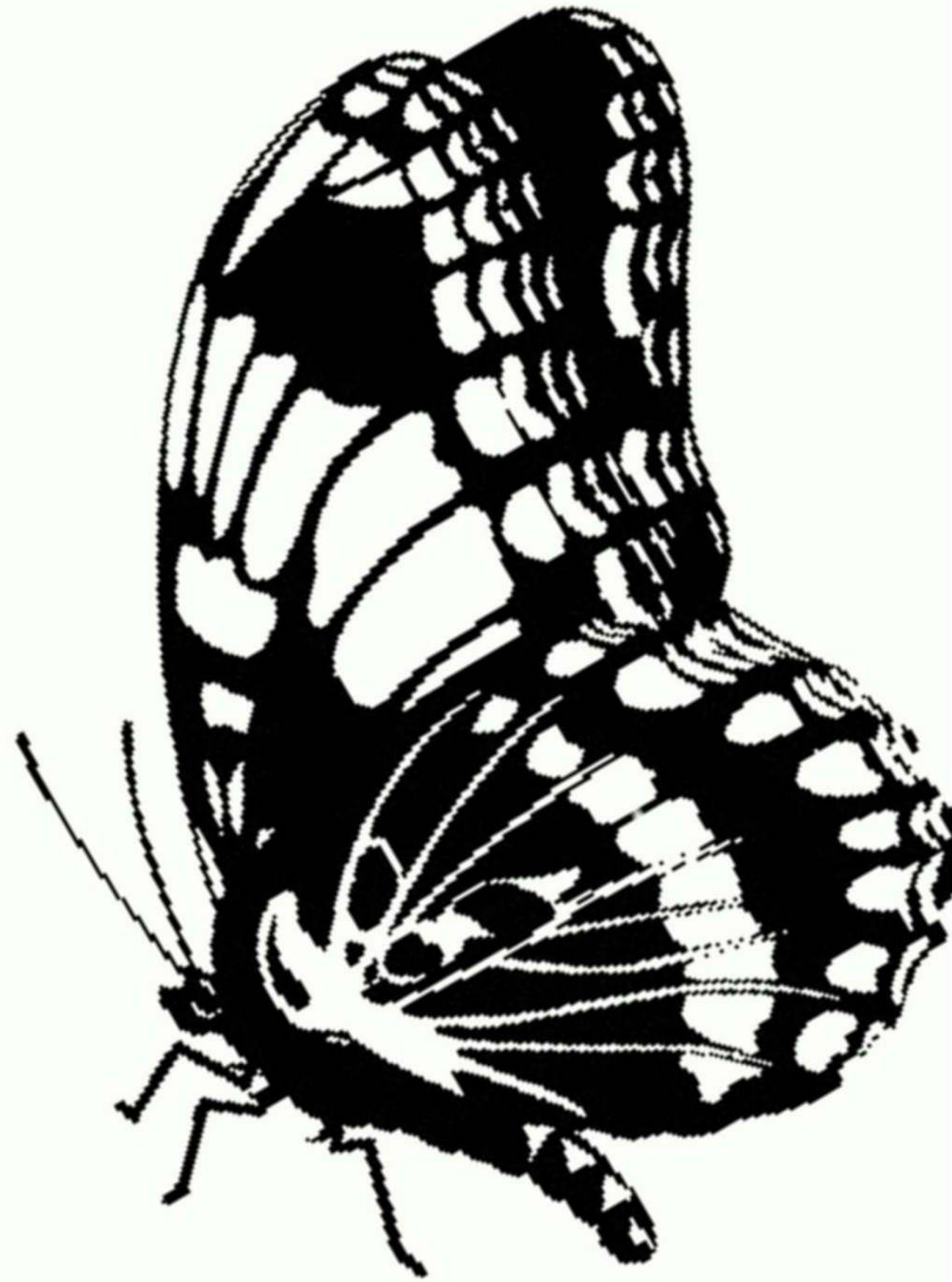
Chocolats Halba; Coop.WWF
Switzerland

Duration

2018 – 2028

Partners

Nature & Development Foundation;
South Pole; International Trade Centre;
Ecotop Consult; Fair Trade Africa;
Kuapa Kooko Limited.



OTHER INTERVENTIONS



STOP MINING IN GHANA'S FOREST RESERVES

Mining in forest reserves can have devastating impacts such as deforestation, biodiversity loss, pollution, and climate change. However, in November 2022, a law which is permitting mining in Ghana's Forest Reserves was controversially passed by the Government of Ghana.

The law however renders unimportant, Objectives in the 2012 Forest and Wildlife Policy, all previously stakeholder-agreed guidelines that limited the total area of forest estate that could be mined to 2%, the power of the forestry commission to refuse an entry permit, the limitation of mining to production forest reserves and the general illegality to mine in forest reserves.

As a result, NDF commenced an advocacy journey to have the law amended or completely repealed.

OBJECTIVE

- To produce a well-researched and comprehensive legal opinion on the new regulation on mining in forest reserves in Ghana
- Based on existing law-making processes and procedures, advocate for amending or a complete repeal of LI 2462.



ACHIEVEMENTS

- A legal opinion has been sought on the L.I. 2462.
- - LEGAL OPINION
- NDF partnered with A Rocha, WACCAM and others to organize a forum to enlighten stakeholders about the L.I.
- A stakeholders' forum has been held to discuss the law permitting mining in Ghana's forest reserves and the legal opinion which was sought on the law.
- At the forum, it was agreed that a complete repeal of the law should be pursued and not an amendment.



COMMUNICATIONS -

Our commitment to clear and effective communication is paramount. We prioritize fostering strong relationships with stakeholders through open communication channels. This ensures transparency and facilitates collaboration in achieving shared goals.

We have engaged our audience through the various communication channels contributing to the projects improvement.



Communication is key to Projects tailored for Social Impact

COMMUNICA TIONS -

- WEBSITE
- SOCIAL MEDIA
- NEWSLETTERS
- BULK SMS

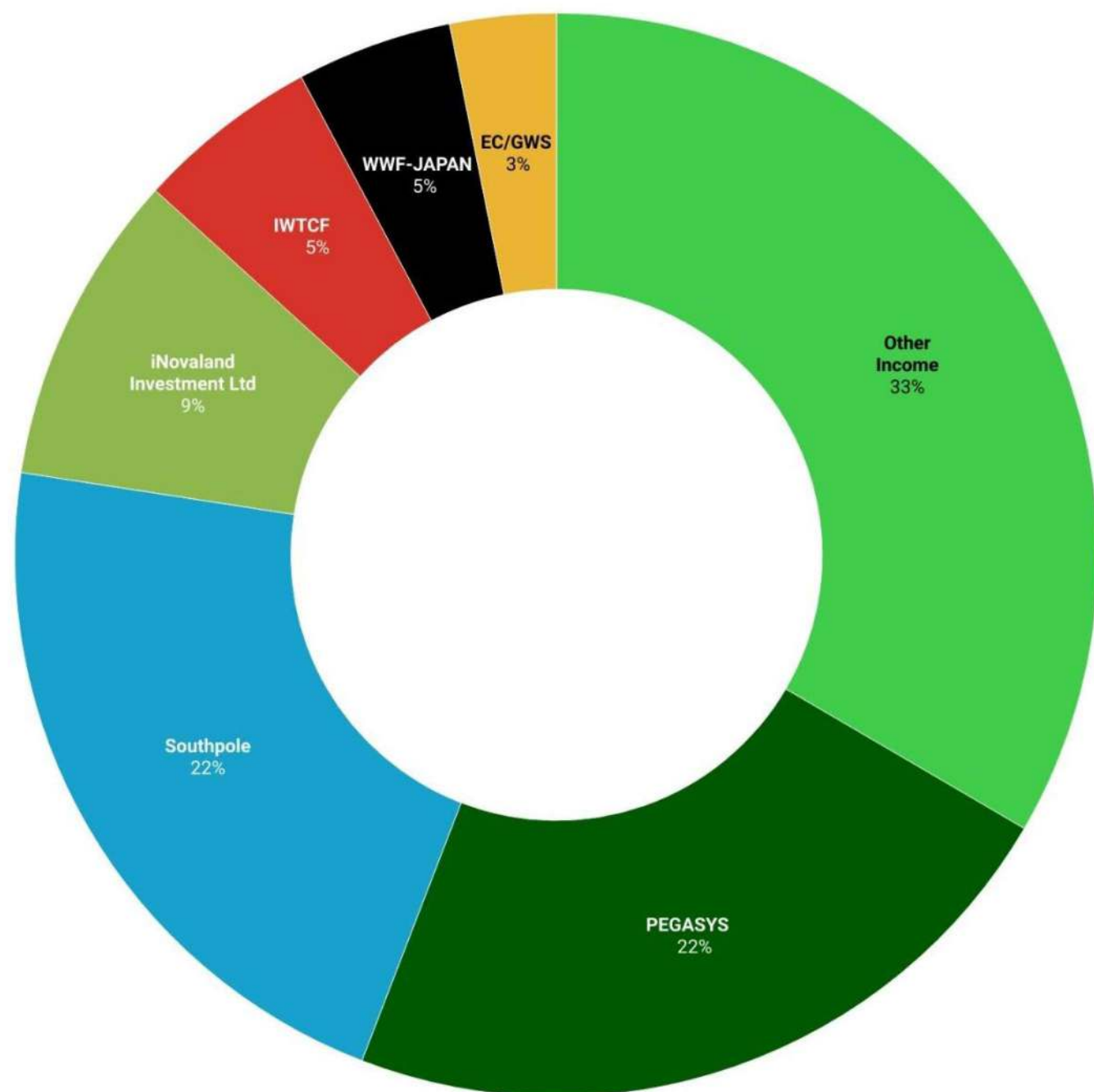
Mediums used in connecting with the rest of the world.....

Communication is key to Projects tailored for Social Impact



Financial summary

NDF Income and Expenditure 2023



Income Received

2023 (GH¢) 2022 (GH¢)

WWF-Switzerland	-	158,044
WWF-JAPAN	445,058	-
IWTCF	522,845	3,345,079
PEGASYS	2,149,700	102,688
FAO5	-	308,104
EC/GWS-SIBCI	303,504	659,779
Southpole	2,069,209	719,430
iNovaland Investment Ltd	891,905	151,527
FAO6	-	5,444,651
Other Income	3,203,906	883,303
Total Income	9,586,127	6,327,954

Operating Expenses


Fees

Salaries	1.6M
Seeds and seedlings for farmers cost	978K
Sub-grants to partners	667.7K
Third party fees	514.4K
Workshop expenses	464.5K
Local transport to workshop participants	455.6K
End of services provision	268.8K
Staff travel cost	265.5K
Vehicle repairs	211.8K
Bonus	195.6K
Fuel	183K
Internet, telephone and postage	129K
Rent	128.8K
Fuel for field activities	114K
Air fares	108.4K
Health insurance	64.6K
Sundries	46.3K
Bank charges	46.3K
Printing and Stationery, photo copies and bindings	29.3K
NDF staff education and development expenses	23.7K
Audit fee	16K
Vehicle insurance	15.5K
Materials	8K
Transport	3.5K
Capital asset costs	2.7K

Expenses

2023 (GH¢) 2022 (GH¢)

Salaries	1,600,504	845,672
End of services provision	268,776	114,167
Fuel	183,045	-
Health insurance	64,601	53,656
Bonus	195,627	195,627
Third party fees	514,428	152,164
Audit fee	16,000	15,000
Transport	3,481	-
Air fares	108,370	112,804
Local transport to workshop participants	455,598	566,604
Staff travel cost	265,496	-
Sundries	46,308	35,296
Internet, telephone and postage	129,019	9,587
Bank charges	46,308	18,938
NDF staff education and development expenses	23,720	6,279
Workshop expenses	464,547	363,266
Materials	8,016	36,006
Rent	128,827	75,260
Printing and Stationery, photo copies and bindings	29,321	24,360
Vehicle repairs	211,800	109,459
Fuel for field activities	113,954	449,380
Vehicle insurance	15,539	10,011
Seeds and seedlings for farmers cost	978,039	557,456
Capital asset costs	2,659	24,917
Sub-grants to partners	667,747	1,349,169
Total Expenses	6,541,730	5,125,078



Thank you for taking the time to read this report. If you have any questions or would like to discuss our projects further, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

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Legon.

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