



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

By the Kasa Secretariat

CORE SUPPORT PARTNER



Other Project Support Partners



INTRODUCTION

During the year under review, Kasa implemented a number of initiatives and projects with part support from other partners the Gower Street Foundation providing core organization support. Apart from activities implemented directly by Kasa, about 40% of total staff time was also dedicated to supporting other national level engagements with various stakeholders on different natural resources, environment and climate change governance issues. Eg are National NDCs implementation Monitoring Committee Meetings, Board Meetings on GSLERP project, National Climate Finance Tracking Meetings etc

PROJECTS/ INITIATIVES

ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVELIHOODS PROJECT (ERECOL) Supported by Avina Foundation and BASE Partners

Project Objectives

- Improved resilience of the Keta Lagoon Complex Ramsar site to climate change effects through mangrove vegetation restoration actions (nature based solutions)
- Increased community knowledge on ecological importance of mangroves towards maximum support for sustainable conservation actions

Summary Actions

1. Mangrove restoration actions (7.5 Hectares)
2. Community Sensitization on Mangrove sustainable conservation
3. Community Green Livelihood Dialogue
4. Institute Volunteer scheme for mangrove conversation



Pic 1- Community engagements on Mangrove restoration for climate resilience building actions



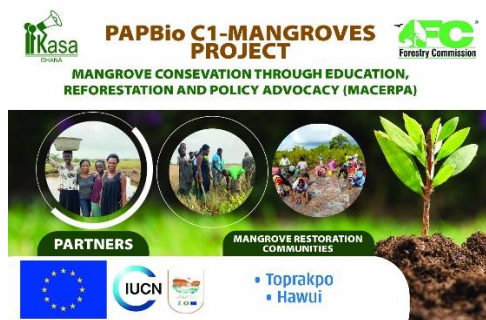
Pic 2- Project Banner



Community Mangrove planting Volunteer team. Planting exercise in progress

Mangrove Conservation through Education, Reforestation and Policy Advocacy (MACERPA)- Supported by IUCN PAPBio C1-MANGROVES Project

This project involved; 1.Co-identification of mangrove degraded areas with communities in the Anyui Creek and engaging them to plant at least 17,000 mangrove seedlings to rehabilitate 10 hectares land within three communities. 2. Embarked on community and national-level advocacy for the integration of sustainable mangrove conservation practices into a draft coastal management policy development process by the Ministry of Environment in Ghana.



Picture of Project signage in communities



Group picture after community engagement



Mangrove Awareness/education event in community. Picture of field work, restoration action

POLITICAL PARTY MANIFESTO DRAFTING INFLUENCING PROCESS- ELECTION 2024

The 2024 Ghanaian elections present a critical opportunity to prioritize environmental sustainability. Ghana faces multiple environmental challenges that demand immediate and decisive action. These challenges threaten Ghana's development, economic growth, and public health. Addressing them requires a paradigm shift towards green development, focusing on economic prosperity while protecting the environment and ensuring social equity.

In view of the above Kasa led a process to Document Environment and Sustainability Priorities from its CSOs perspective with several broad engagement through its platform and other platforms like Green Livelihood Alliance and CSOs SDG platforms. After these series of consultations in 2023 a final document summarising all the priorities is a 15-page document is developed and named Ghana Environment Manifesto. The next phase of this initiative in 2024 is to begin engaging all relevant stakeholders especially the politicians on these priorities for an informed and issue based electioneering campaigns.



Group picture of CSO participants during forum.



Screen shot of the CSO Env. Manifesto Doc

CIVIL SOCIETY ACTORS FORUM ON PUBLISH WHAT YOU PAY (PWYP) PROCESS IN GHANA

Kasa's interest in sustainability and accountability in the Natural Resources sector partnered with its Oil and Gas platform and 'Publish What You Pay' Network to enhance CSOs knowledge. Kasa regularly organizes information and capacity building sessions for CSOs on various natural resources governance themes aimed at improving advocacy for good NRE governance in Ghana.

The objective of this workshop was to increase awareness and understanding of CSOs on PWYP's contract transparency activities and initiate a process of linking revenues from Extractive sector to industry emissions. This was an initial step towards a series of events to unpack and analyze related reports for informed advocacy.



Pic 1 Mr Noble Wadza- Facilitating



Pic 2 Group Picture of Participants at the PWYP forum

TOWARDS A WHOLISTIC CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIONS IMPLEMENTATION REPORTING FOR GHANA- CONTRIBUTIONS BY CSO ACTORS

Gap In Ghana NDCs Reporting system and CSOs Approach

The reporting structure designed to collate information and data to draft Ghana’s NDCs implementation report are meant for Government Institutions and key Ministries to provide inputs. Clearly missing in this arrangement is the contributions from non-state actors especially CSOs. Meanwhile, there is enough evidence of CSOs receipt of significant climate finance and implementation of different actions especially at the subnational levels if well-coordinated can be included in the national reports on climate change.

Kasa with part support from Gower Street Foundation and in Partnership with other Organizations including Tropenbos Ghana and IUCN Ghana organized series of engagements with the National Climate Change reporting unit, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and selected CSOs in 2023 to specifically kick start a process that feeds into the NDCs report for 2024.



Pic 1 Mr Gokah engaging with a section of participants during the first forum



Pic 2-Dr Benefoh from the EPA Climate Change presenting on the NDCs Framework

14TH CSOS ANNUAL NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT REVIEW FORUM 2023 - NOVEMBER, 21, 2023

Since 2008 Kasa Initiative Ghana annually host CSOs belong to the various thematic sector to view the natural resources and environment sector. This year too with a focus theme - “Enhancing the Integration of Sustainable Natural Resource and Environment Priorities in Ghana’s Development Framework: Critical Issues by CSOs for State

Agencies and Political Actors” Kasa hosted 55 participants from CSOs, traditional authorities, political actors and the media at the Miklin Hotel. The targeted two main political parties had the NDC Party represented by two officials at the forum to receive the recommendations by CSOs



A section of the participants actively engaged during the forum

CARBON MARKET FORUM - Supported by IDH Trade in Ghana

With a strong interest in reducing carbon footprint and exploring the opportunities of carbon finance, Kasa Initiative Ghana in collaboration with the Climate Change Unit of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and IDH Trade hosted a forum on Ghana Carbon Policy Dialogue.

Objectives

The objective was to align with the government on the country carbon framework and create awareness among stakeholders especially Forest Sector actors and CSOs on Ghana's efforts to mitigate climate change through carbon finance.

Expected Outcomes

1. Stakeholders increased understanding of Ghana's carbon regulatory framework.
2. Greater understanding of the risk and mitigation measures for ongoing carbon initiatives and their impacts on host communities



Pic 1-Dr Benefoh of EPA presenting on Ghana Carbon Initiatives



Pic 2-Group picture of participants at Event

Pic 3—Participants in session

KEEP YOUR PROMISE CAMPAIGN - NOVEMBER 27, 2023

Prior to the event at COP28, Kasa Initiative Ghana joined Abantu for development, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance organized a press conference themed - “Keep Your Promise Campaign”. The goal was to create public awareness on pledges and commitments made during the previous COP events and demand accountability from World Leaders on the sincerity of their promises towards addressing climate change especially to respond to the urgency of conditions in vulnerable countries to adapt to climate change.

This was to take stock of existing commitments and pledges before new ones are made again at COP 28 in Dubai.





Pictures--Kasa Coordinator participation and speaking at the event

CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT FOR GOWER STREET FOUNDATION'S SUPPORTED CSOs IN GHANA

Kasa Initiative Ghana, in collaboration with Gower Street Foundation, organized a 6-day Capacity Building Workshop for selected CSOs in Ghana that are currently receiving seed grant support from Gower Street Foundation for climate change interventions in communities in Ghana. This CSOs Platform was created for learning and sharing best practices and improving technical capacities of members whilst fostering synergies for efficient and impactful projects and activities.

Workshop Objective

The workshop primarily aimed at improving the capacity of participants in the following areas:

- Communication and Reporting
- Resource Mobilisation and Financial Management
- Advocacy, Lobby and Campaign Strategies
- Social Movement Building and Partnership
- Organisational Strategic Business Planning

A total of 15 CSOs benefited from this workshop held in Accra.





Pictures of participants during the training event

PROMOTION OF LOCAL ADAPTATION PRACTICES TO ENHANCE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE DURING COP 28 IN DUBAI

Kasa received support from the Adaptation Research Alliance (ARA) and Science for Africa Foundation (SFA) to participate in COP 28 and use the opportunity to share experience at 3 different side events to speak on the topic of Building community resilience to climate change through local level adaptation practices and the need for donor funds direct deployment to grassroots organizations for greater efficiency and impact.

Experiences from the Mangrove restoration projects by Kasa happening in the coastal communities of the volta region in Ghana were used as case studies to demonstrate success. The important aspect of all these discussions centered on the collaboration and cooperation from the communities to assure stakeholders of sustainability of such initiatives.



MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECTS ON EMISSION REDUCTIONS UNDER GCF

As part of civil society organizations mandate to play monitoring role as part of national GCF program implementation Kasa organized a forum in the Northern part of the Country for CSOs and media. This forum was aimed at providing updates on the implementation of the Ghana Shea Landscape Emissions Reduction Project (GSLERP). The Officials from the GSLERP secretariat were present to provide information to the CSOs. Questions and Answer sessions offered the CSOs the opportunity to ask questions based on the happenings in the project communities from which they came.



Group Picture and participants in session with the Manager of GSLERP project in Tamale