



ELIZKA RELIEF FOUNDATION

GHANA – WEST AFRICA

ANNUAL REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2021/2022

Prepared by: The Secretariat

Elizka Relief Foundation is a non-governmental organization legally registered and based in Ghana with a thematic scope of *capacity building* and *human empowerment*.

The core principle of the organization is promotion of Human Rights – “*the right to development and leaving no one behind*” – with its priority areas being Agriculture for Development (A4D), Information Communication for Development (ICT4D), and Research for Development (R4D), and Community Development.

The areas of special interest to the organization are i) Education (ii) Health (iii) Climate Change (iv) Arts (Youth and Culture), (v) Cultural Diversity (Exchange Programs), (vi) Child Survival and Development, (vii) Water and Sanitation (viii) Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (ix) Rural Infrastructure Development, (x) Women in Development and (xi) Food security.

Elizka Relief Foundation currently has Special Consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC) – www.un.org/ecosoc/en/home, and Observer Status with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – www.unfccc.int.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Statement of the organization is seeking to purposefully create and manage opportunities for connection and communication across sectorial, identity and geographical boundaries to promote social and sustainable integrated development by enhancing capacity to network.

VISION

Central to our activities is the epoch when civil society organizations and popular networks are sufficiently empowered- economically, materially, politically, culturally, socially and technologically - to take greater control of and determine confidently the direction and scope of their own development.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The general aim of the organization is to promote sustainable and social integrated development by assisting and advising community development practitioners, voluntary groups and communities in need, popular networks, and individuals seeking for social and sustainable development, to identify, mobilize and gain access to right sources of resources to enable them access and benefit from good education, health, environment, vocational training, credit, microfinance, cultural diversity and charitable support toward the development of a better world.

In pursuit of its mission, vision and aims, Elizka Relief Foundation has the following functions: –

Coordination:

In a proactive manner; define and articulate a pan-African position on key strategic and global sustainable development issues to:

- ✚ advocate for Africa at global meetings pertaining to sustainable development and coordinate and harmonize policies and programs in Africa with relation to sustainable development
- ✚ forge linkages between African civil society organizations, institutions and organizations across the globe
- ✚ develop mechanisms to deal with Africa's sustainable development problems and
- ✚ monitor and evaluate the impact of sustainable development research at the African regional level.

Advocacy and Resource mobilization:

- ✚ Coordinate donor efforts and inputs in Africa's sustainable development research activities through identification and interaction with key players in the donor community and their programs, and to grant conditions through the development of strategies for effectively and efficiently dealing with these key players
 - ✚ Advocacy of African needs and aspirations at international meetings
 - ✚ Liaise with advocacy groups and research institutions in developed countries that conduct research to solve problems in Africa
 - ✚ Build coalitions with key stakeholders and advocacy groups on Africa's sustainable development activities and
 - ✚ Pro-actively identify issues likely to affect Africa's sustainable development and develop strategies or mobilize capacity to deal with them.
-
- ✚ **Promote exchange of information** technology and human resources at the pan-Africa Level through the following:
 - ✚ Promote awareness of regional and global issues such as genetically modified foods, intellectual property rights, globalization, available technologies, human rights, education, health, etc.
 - ✚ Document for use in advocacy functions, sustainable development issues, processes and its significance in Africa and
 - ✚ Document and disseminate "best practices" in sustainable development issues.

Messages

We are very much grateful for your interest and concern in and about Elizka Relief Foundation. Elizka is growing with confidence through aligning itself with seasoned experts and reputable organizations in the CSOs sector. The organization seeks sustainable solutions to long-term issues pertaining to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through an integrated, community-based, and participatory approach that reinforces Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS) as well as government initiative.

Through an array of empowering / capacity building measures, it has worked to open opportunities for humanity and improve their living conditions. At present; the organization being represented by its President and Chief Executive Officer – Kofi Kankam – serves as the co-chair of the Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and Other Stakeholders under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission of Africa (UNECA) – <https://www.uneca.org/stories/africa-regional-mechanism-major-groups-and-other-stakeholders-launched-victoria-falls>, and West Africa Regional Organizing Partner for United Nations NGO Major Group – www.ngomg.org/http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/majorgroups/ngos.

The organization further represents the mechanism at the High Level Political Forum Coordination Mechanism.

Moreover, its president and chief executive officer currently serves as the Africa Regional Focal Point for Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD), convener for the Ghana CSOs SDGs Platform – <http://ghanacsoplatformsdg.org/conveners-and-co-conveners/> - for the Kumasi Metropolis and National Focal Point (Ghana) - for Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR).

The organization perceives real development as impossible without consideration of the environment and without taking into account local social and cultural values, and enabling stakeholder participation.

In lieu of this, we ensure to work towards the direction of the five agreements which were made during the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. Our overall sustainable development programme optimizes the realization of the society's many and different social, environmental and economic objectives at one and the same time through an adaptive process of integration, whilst striking bargains (trade-offs) among the different interest groups concerned.

In a proactive manner; the organization has been defining and articulating a pan-African position on key strategic and global sustainable development issues, coordinating donor efforts and inputs in Africa's sustainable development research activities through identification and interaction with key players in the donor community and their programs, and creating conditions through the development of strategies for effectively and efficiently dealing with these key players.

Elizka over the last few years has established itself as an organization committed towards socio-economic development through the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agenda 2063. The organization has worked with multiple stakeholders - Intergovernmental bodies, Governmental bodies, Media, Private Sector, International and National Non-Governmental Organizations, Multilateral Organizations - to create a platform and an understanding towards the attainment of these global goals.

Taking impetus from its previous works, Elizka during these periods articulated and highlighted issues of sustainable development both at the local and international levels.

To ensure opportunities of partnership, it was necessary to work with the private sector. We therefore led consultations with the private sector which made it possible for us to highlight a few issues at the local level.

Message from the President and Chief Executive Officer

We present to you the integrated Annual Report and Financial Report for the year 2020-21 and 2021-22.

Elizka Relief Foundation (ELIZKA) enters into its fifteen (15) year with a remarkable confidence. With sharpened clarity on approach and improved knowledge and talent base, the organization is poised to leap ahead to cover other untouched areas.

With the turn of this year, Elizka feels proud to present its Annual Report 2021-2022, which provides you a glimpse of what we did and achieved these years through our synergized effort. These years too, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially in Africa was our primary goal. In the process, we successfully contributed to the UN ECOSOC Partnership Forum (2021) as a member of the Expert Group, represented Africa on the MGoS VNR Task Group, participated in the Reconvened CND, Geneva Forum, and High Level Dialogue on Inequality in West Africa.

Moreover, we participated in Africa Development Bank and Ministry of Finance's (Ghana) Mid-Term 2019-2023 Country Strategy Paper, the 7th Africa Regional Forum for Sustainable Development (7th ARFSD), Forty-Seventh Session of the Human Rights Council, High Level Political Forum, and UNFCCC COP26.

Lastly, we served as head of international delegation of "the African Water for Peace: the Nile for Peace" Initiative to Cairo in June 2021.

In 2022, we continued our past efforts from 2021 by effectively participating and contributing in numerous events such as the UN ECOSOC Partnership Forum 2022, African Sustainable Development CSOs Meeting in Cairo, Eight Session of Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on SDG 4, UN High Level Political Forum, UNFCCC COP 27, UN Country Team national stakeholder consultation on the draft UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2025, and the Africa consultation for the United Nations Global Sustainable Development Report.

Moreover, for both years, we were able to make significant Written and Oral submissions at the United Nations General Assembly human Rights Council sessions in Geneva.

These have been significant years, as our cost-effective strategies were well-suited to our objectives, and I hope that our work will continue to attract bilateral, multilateral, intergovernmental, and the private sector to cooperate with us in the same manner. The period also proved crucial in bringing together the focus of multi-stakeholders on the issues pertaining to SDGs on the Africa continent.

We subsequently concluded to deal more intensively with the basic needs of the vulnerable communities and were predominantly concerned with the question of what is needed to improve the quality of life of the rural communes.

We are now pursuing this goal in a variety of ways. We subdivided our projects into two different project groups: Education, Climate Change – Water and Sanitation, Agriculture and Health.

It is extremely important to us to realize projects in harmony with the customs, religion and ideas of the local population, because our preferred mantra and credo remains one of sustainability. Although this fashionable term has already been embraced by many, and for a thousand times, few people are conscious of how sustainability describes a concrete principle for action in the efficient use of resources. Sustainable development is, however, only possible if all parties involved work closely together and have the same goal in mind. This leads me to another important point: our team. Large goals can only be achieved together, which is why I am convinced that networking is indispensable.

This includes not only all contacts established virtually and face-to-face. We have already set up respectable teams in order to implement challenging and extensive projects with these outstanding and loyal co-workers. In order to be able to meet the basic needs of the local population, the following questions arise: How can we solve water problems during times of drought? How can farmers be aided to multiply their crop yields? How can farmers be convinced to use compost as a fertilizer rather than a chemical compound? Careful handlings of fertilizer and insect repellents, as well as alternative soil treatment methods, are important to ensure that human health is not jeopardized. This is especially true for vegetables, fruit and herbs. Another question is: How can we advance into remote areas of in order to guarantee a basic education there? In seeking the answer, it is only through a concerted intra-continental coalition of all stakeholders can address issues of below-average life expectancy, educational inequality, above-average illiteracy rates, etc. I would like to draw the attention of all to certain things which, in my view, are mission critical for delivering sustainable development: we at Elizka want to motivate the local population to actively participate in the design of our projects and to create a future that can make everyone happy in the long term.

INTRODUCTION

In developing the 2021/22 Annual Reports, we reflected on a previous year that was like no other. This report therefore highlights, not just the organization's achievements but our experience navigating troubled waters. Despite the disruption faced globally as the world experienced one of the most significant pandemics in modern history, we emerged stronger. Our story is like a puzzle with four interconnected pieces:

We are In It Together - that was the realization we came to as an organization, alongside our partners, funders, the communities we serve and indeed the whole of humanity

Collaboration - is not only inevitable but is invaluable when you find yourselves in the same boat.

Building Resilience - the world has changed and we must change with it, if we are to build back better; so we built systems for the future.

Celebrating our Wins - there were wins; those bright spots in difficult years; those achievements that kept us going; the results of the collective efforts of many and we celebrate them.

The year 2020 gave us the opportunity to demonstrate the power and potential of evidence as a driver of change. Never has there been a more opportune time for the organization to establish the power and value of African experts leading conversations about change in Africa.

We hope you enjoy reading about our journey in 2021 and 2022.

Key Highlights of 2020

We began the year by participating in the sixth (6th) session of the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) held under the theme ***"2020-2030: A Decade to Deliver a Transformed and Prosperous Africa through the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063"*** from the 24th – 27th February 2020 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe during which the ***Africa Regional Mechanism Of The Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (ARMMGOS)*** - formerly known as Africa Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism (ARCSEM) which was officially launched and of which the president and ceo – Kofi Kankam – was formally elected as one of the co-chairs of the mechanism.



We followed by actively participating in the 2020 High Level Political Forum which was held in New York and our president and ceo once again served as one of the expert speakers at the “Africa Day” which was held as a side event at the margins of the HLPF with the theme ***“Realizing the Decade of Action: Leveraging Digital Technology in the Context of COVID-19 for an Inclusive, Healthy, Resilient and Peaceful Africa”***

The organization also received sets of Information Technology Equipment from the *Central Support Services of the United Nations Office at Geneva* under their *Information Technology Equipment Donation Programme To Permanent Missions And NGOs* to help improve the availability of and access to Information Communication Technology equipment and its usage in basic (primary) schools - public and private - located in rural and deprived areas in the Ashanti region of Ghana.

As part of a seven (7) member organizations joint international mission drawn from Europe, Africa, and the Middle East at the instance of the Egyptian Electoral Commission to monitor and observe Egypt's 2020 House of Representatives elections. Elizka Relief Foundation expertly partook and contributed immensely the team's exercise from October 5 to 18, 2020.







KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021

Seventh Session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD 7)

The Regional Forum is an intergovernmental platform convened annually by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations system to review progress, share experiences and lessons learned and build a consensus on policy options and actions in the form of key messages to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063. Accordingly, the Forum serves as an important mechanism to ensure integrated monitoring and evaluation of the impact by supporting countries in unlocking bottlenecks in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 as stipulated in the AU-UN Development Framework on the implementation of the two agendas.

ARFSD-7 prepared African countries to articulate Africa's priorities at the 2021 High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF) which was held in New York from 6-15 July 2021. The key messages adopted by the Regional Forum also served as Africa's collective input to the 2021 HLPF. The theme of the seventh session of the Regional Forum was ***"Building forward better: towards a resilient and green Africa to achieve the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063"***. The Forum undertook in-depth review of implementation of nine selected Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the corresponding goals of Agenda 2063. The selected SDGs were **1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 17**.

The seventh session of the African Regional Forum for Sustainable took place from 1-4 March 2021 with the event for major groups and other stakeholders coming off from 26-27 February 2021. The Forum officially opened in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, while the rest of the Forum deliberations took place online.

Elizka Relief Foundation officially attended this all important event as one of the key stakeholders. Our president and ceo (Kofi Kankam) alongside Djamel Bouras, Acting President of the Pan-African Parliament, Vera Songwe, USG, Executive Secretary, ECA, and Natalia Kanem, USG, Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund delivered the opening statements for the Preparatory and capacity development workshop for major groups and other stakeholders. Mr. Kofi Kankam also served as a panelist during forum's workshop on African voluntary national and local reviews of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Moreover, Kofi served on a high-level panel session during the ARFSD plenary session on voluntary national reviews of SDG progress on March 02, 2021, which included prominent personnel such as Ambassador Collen V. Kelapile (Permanent Representative of Botswana and Vice President of ECOSOC) and Ms Najat Maalla M'jid (Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children).

Partnership with Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD)

After its successful participation in the seventh (7) ARFSD, the organization officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD) to coordinate the regional advocacy of A4SD, through ensuring effective and coordinated advocacy work across the countries prioritized on the Africa continent and to ensure *all* organizations participating in A4SD in the region are able to fully participate in the platform.

2021 High Level Political Forum (2021 HLPF)

Following its success at the seventh session of the ARFSD, the organization focused on its participation at the 2021 High Level Political Forum (HLPF 2021) and with the collaboration and cooperation of Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD), it was able to achieve the following:

- Supported in coordinating and development of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) Interventions and presentations for Africa countries – Angola, Cabo Verde, Chad, Egypt, Namibia, Madagascar, Niger, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, and Zimbabwe - who presented their VNRs during HLPF 2021
- Supported in the collation of the People's Scorecards from Africa - <https://action4sd.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Peoples-Scorecard-Summary-Report-VNR-Countries-2021.pdf>
- Developed and submitted a Sectoral Position Paper during the 2021 HLPF on behalf of the Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and other Stakeholders (ARMMGoS).

Moreover, the organization Developed and delivered the keys messages for the Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and other Stakeholders (ARMMGoS) during the Messages from the Regions session at HLPF 2021 through its president and ceo who also doubles as a co-chair of the mechanism.

2022 UN ECOSOC Partnership Forum

As outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, partnerships are essential for achieving all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and mobilizing the related commitment, efforts, finance, technology and data. The ECOSOC Partnership Forum is organized annually to discuss the role of partnerships in driving sustainable development. With only ten years left to achieve the SDGs, the 2022 ECOSOC Partnership Forum provided policy space for Member States, non-state stakeholders and the UN development system to focus on key cross-cutting and inter-linked issues that are central to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and for discussing ways to mobilize multi-stakeholder partnerships to galvanize synergistic actions. The Forum also showcased a number of successful partnerships that are accelerating the achievement of the SDGs.

Elizka Relief Foundation through its president and ceo served as a member of the advisory Group for the 2022 UN ECOSOC Partnership Forum which was held virtually on February 02, 2022.

Moreover, during the ECOSOC Partnership Forum 2022, Mr. Kofi Kankam served as one of the panel members for the partnership exchange session which has the theme **“Fostering an enabling environment for collaboration”** and also for the spotlight session **“Education for all as a key step of the recovery”**.

Nile for Peace Initiative

The Nile for Peace initiative is deeply concerned about the escalating crisis of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), especially after the failure of negotiations since April 2021. The Nile for Peace initiative realizes the importance of a peaceful settlement of this crisis and its role in achieving development, cooperation and the desired peace, specifically for Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt by ensuring Ethiopia's right to development, and the right of the two downstream countries to take a legally-binding agreement, as well as the severe repercussions of unilateral and escalatory measures on all political, security, economic, humanitarian and environmental levels in a way that threatens not just the Nile Basin countries but the whole African continent.

As head of international delegation of “the African Water for Peace: the Nile for Peace” Initiative to Cairo in June 2021. The organization being represented by its president and ceo led a team of delegation from Egypt-Sudan-Ethiopia-Kenya -Uganda-Burundi-Tanzania-Morocco-South Sudan to meet with the Ambassadors of Ethiopia and Sudan to Egypt, Egypt's Minister for Foreign Affairs, The Director General of the Arab League and other dignitaries from the Egyptian Parliament.



(Ambassador Markos welcomed members of the Initiative to the Ethiopian Embassy, Mr. Ayman Okeil, General Manager of the Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights of Egypt; Dr. Hanan El-Amin



Muddathir, Chairperson of Environmental Initiatives for Sustainable Development (Envi) of Sudan and Mr. Kofi Kankam, co-chair of the Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and other Stakeholders and head of the delegation on June 06, 2021).



(Mr. Kofi Kankam, head of delegation of the Nile for Peace Initiative delivering the keynote message at a pressconference in relation to the mission's trip to Cairo)



(Cross section of the media at the Nile for Peace Initiative press conference held in relation to the mission's trip to Cairo)

Consultations Session organized by the World Bank Group on Country Partnership Framework

The organization also participated in the Consultations Session organized by the World Bank Group on June 10, 2021 from 10:00am to 12:30pm at the Golden Bean Hotel, Kumasi to discuss the forthcoming World Bank Group (WBG) Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for Ghana which sort to strategically support Ghana's development agenda under the framework of the new World Bank Group Country Partnership Framework covering fiscal years 2022 to 2026 and also identify priority areas for future World Bank Group engagement.

COP 26

Elizka happily closed its major activities in the year by participating in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP 26 which was held at the SEC Centre in Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom, from 31 October to 13 November 2021. COP26 summit brought parties together to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The gathering saw the finalization of the Glasgow Climate Pact which sort to accelerate action on climate this decade and finally completes the Paris Rulebook and also the climax of two years of fervent diplomacy and ambition rising. For the first time in the history of COP, there was an agreement on a position to phase down unabated coal power.



The Presidency's work focused on delivering the Glasgow Climate Pact and driving action across the globe on: • Mitigation - reducing emissions • Adaptation - helping those already impacted by climate change • Finance - enabling countries to deliver on their climate goals • Collaboration - working together to deliver even greater action. The Glasgow Climate Pact is anticipated to speed up the pace of climate action. However, even with the action committed both during and before COP26, communities around the world will continue to feel the impact of our changing planet.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022

The ARFSD is an annual multi-stakeholder platform that brings together Ministers, senior officials, experts and practitioners from UN member States, private sector, civil society, academia and UN organizations. The 2022 Forum held from 3 – 5 March, 2022 in Kigali was jointly organized by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and Government of the Republic of Rwanda in collaboration with their partners.

The ARFSD like all the other regional forums on sustainable development is mandated by the General Assembly of the United Nations. The regional forum is one of the three mechanisms mandated to follow-up, review and catalyzes actions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by UN member States in September 2015.

Unique to Africa, the ARFSD undertakes integrated follow-up and review of the SDGs and goals of the African Union Agenda 2063. This is because for Africa, the two Agenda provide a synergistic framework for achieving inclusive and people-centered sustainable development in the region.

The ARFSD also provides a platform for peer learning including Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and Voluntary Local Review (VLRs) by subnational entities.

The Forum adopts two main outcomes:

- ✚ Summary and key messages: This is Africa's collective input to the HLPF on all the deliberations of the Forum. This outcome document consists of Africa's priorities and policy recommendation to accelerate implementation of the two Agendas.
- ✚ Declaration of the Forum: This takes the name of the host city and presents an African collective position on specific issues of importance for the Bureau and the Chair of the Bureau, following the deliberations of the participants of the ARFSD.

The 2022 ARFSD was held under the theme : ***Building forward better: A green, inclusive and resilient Africa poised to achieve the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, aligned with that of 2022 HLPF, namely Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.*** The selected set of Sustainable Development Goals reviewed in-depth during the forum were ***Goals 4, 5, 14, 15 and 17***

Kofi Kankam, president and ceo of Elizka Relief Foundation and also the co-chair of the Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and other Stakeholders' Steering Committee delivered the opening statement for the Preparatory and capacity development workshop for major groups

and other stakeholders in the African region for the eighth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development which was held in Kigali from March 1-2, 2022.

He also moderated the session on “Fundraising and Financial Sustainability of Major Groups and other Stakeholders during Crises” at the preparatory workshop. This session addressed the financial sustainability of Major Groups and other Stakeholders during crises and proposed actionable measures to ensure that major groups and other stakeholders can withstand future shocks and continue delivering on their mandates. Panelist for the session included; Global Coordinator of the Action for Sustainable Development, Oliver Henman; Manager of the Civil Society and Social Innovation Division, African Development Bank, Zéneb Touré; Co-Chair of the Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and other Stakeholders’ Steering Committee, Carole Agen-go; and Chief Networks officer of CIVICUS, Amy Taylor

2022 High Level Political Forum (2022 HLPF)

Elizka Relief Foundation in 2022 also participated in the 2022 High Level Political Forum (HLPF) which took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from July 5 – 15, 2022 under the theme **“Building backbetter from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”**.

Sustainable Development Goals 4 on quality education, 5 on gender equality, 14 on life below water, 15 on life on land, and 17 on partnerships for the Goals was reviewed in-depth during the forum. Moreover, the event took into account the different impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic across all Sustainable Development Goals and the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Goals.

Elizka Relief Foundation being led by its president and ceo facilitated and coordinated the participation of African Major Groups and other Stakeholders in this event. The organization coordinated the registration and accreditation of these institutions and their representatives at this event.

Moreover, Elizka coordinated the development and presentation of interventions for countries on the Africa continent which were presenting their VNRs in 2022. These countries included Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, and Togo.

The organization also held a side event on the margins of the 2022 HLPF under the theme **“Effectiveness of promoting gender equality in the field of disarmament to achieve SDGs”** on July 13, 2022.

The organization also held a side event on the margins of the 2022 HLPF under the theme “Effectiveness of promoting gender equality in the field of disarmament to achieve SDGs” on July 13, 2022.

Furthermore, being represented by its president and ceo, the organization served on panels such as the VNR Lab organized by the UN Foundation on the sidelines of 2022 HLPF and MGoS’ side event at the 2022 HLPF on the 13th of July 2022. The title of the side event was **“Accelerating the**

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Implementation - Addressing Systemic Barriers, Recovery Gaps, and Strengthening People's Participation".

Under the invitation of Division for Sustainable Development Goals in the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Elizka Relief Foundation being represented by its president and ceo participated in a workshop which aimed to explore sustainable development challenges and opportunities in Anglophone Africa. The discussions and outcome of the meeting served as inputs to the 2023 United Nations Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) which informed the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Summit (SDG Summit). The GSDR, produced once every four years, is written by an independent group of 15 scientists appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General.



The 2023 group includes leading experts from the natural and social sciences across world regions and is co- chaired by Dr. Imme Scholz of Germany and Dr. J. Jaime Miranda of Peru. The GSDR was requested by United Nations Member States to strengthen the science-policy interface and to provide evidence-based guidance on global sustainable development issues and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs. The report will be launched at the UN Headquarters in New York in September 2023.



The workshop which took place in Lilongwe, Malawi, from 30 November to 2 December 2022, brought valuable insights to the discussion. The meeting was cohosted by the United Nations, the African Institute for Development Policy, and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ).

PARTNERS:

- Action for Sustainable Development



- Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights



- Global Call for Action and Poverty (GCAP)



- NERDS RULE INC. International



- Ghana CSO SDGs Platform

