

|| ALLIANCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INTERVENTION (AFEI)

([www.afeigh.org](http://www.afeigh.org))



*A Report on Climate Harmony Project*

(October 2022 – March 2023)

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# 1 Overview

## 1.1 Project Background and Description

In expressing our interest in the £2000.00 seed funding provided by Gower Street, we stipulated that we would use the fund to achieve 3 specific projects of AfEI, herein listed and described;

### **1.1.1 Tree planting and climate change sensitization project.**

This is a project that aimed at raising awareness on climate change among pupils and students from as young as upper primary schools to senior high schools. This project has been one of our flagship activities and it aims to provide a platform for dialogue, to practically consider the actions that young people can realistically achieve and to be knowledgeable enough about the subject matter to make demands of their leaders. An environment is created for children and young people to think around and be excited about the exploits of green technologies as opposed to fossil fuel and other unsustainable energy sources – preparing young people to be innovative and take up careers in green technological advancement.

This project was aimed at mentoring 5 strongly enthusiastic young people with strong affinity towards green technologies in the 6 months period.

### **1.1.2 Climate Change Adaptation Project (CCAP)**

This project is by far an extension of our flagship “smart agriculture and water life project”, which was initiated in 2017; a very successful project with so much input and learning developed over the period.

Our aim for the CCAP in this project has been to establish demonstration fields to practically engage farmers on realistic, green indigenous technologies in farming that are ecologically friendly, would improve soil quality and provide a positive environment for soil microorganisms and plant growth while increasing farmer’s yields – positive economic impact. Increase the green cover (carbon sink) by creating an environment for plants to thrive.

Here is a brief background on why locally feasible adaptation techniques are invaluable for the environment and the quality of life of people;

“climate change adaptation is a set of potential responses to climate change and its effects. Now that we know climate change is happening and are beginning to understand the impact that this is having and will continue to have on our planet, governments, organizations, and individuals need to decide how to respond. Adaptation is driven by the fact that climate change is already impacting many areas of the world and that the impacts will continue to increase.

Adaptation is critical because, climate change can be destructive and deadly. According to the U.N., "Climate change could drive an additional 100 million people into poverty by 2030." Adaptation strategies can save current and future lives by adjusting to a changing world.” – 10 Billion Strong

Our final project in this expression of interest is

### **1.1.3 Climate Change Digital Drive**

The internet has an immense ability to reach people in a targeted and/or disjointed fashion. This project focused on creating virtual content both for a targeted audience and for our general following.

- Creating awareness on beautiful natural climates in Ghana and Africa, while advocating for the protection of these spaces.
- Raising awareness on climate change in general by bringing the facts and figures of climate change to our following- our monthly newsletter distribution will be intense to a weekly publication and distribution.
- Campaigning for the Atiwa Forest/Achimota Forest to be reserved in its fullness and a section of the Atewa forest developed into an eco-field by the year 2030. This will be achieved through signing petitions and direct engagement with stakeholders - Work done in the 6 months would contribute immensely towards the stated goal.

## **1.2 Project Scope/Objective**

### **1.2.1 Tree Planting and Climate Change Sensitization Project.**

- a. raise awareness among a targeted number of 2000 pupils and students within the 6 months of the implementation.
- b. Plant a minimum of 500 trees - for demonstration purposes and increasing the carbon sink – trees stewarded by students.
- c. Mentor 5 enthusiastic students with strong affinity towards green technologies (within the 6 months)

In order that you appreciate the essence of this practical advocacy project, we would like to bring your attention to the findings of a paper published by Stephen T. Odonkor et al.

“Knowledge, Attitude, and Adaptation to Climate Change in Ghana” - A nationally representative survey of Ghanaian adults conducted between August and December 2021.

Quite interestingly, the results from this paper showed that only 43.9% of the respondents understood the meaning of climate change.

This data gets staggering when you realize that more than half of the respondents (57.4%) had undergraduate education, and the rest had secondary education (22.7%), postgraduate (9.1%), no formal education (5.6%), and primary education (4.9%). When asked to rate their social status, most of the respondents (63.2%) said that they were in the middle class, followed by the upper class (29.7%) and lower class (7.1%).

Government policy (Green Ghana project) will be advocated, and policy contributions made to stakeholders to enhance the efficiency of the project

### **1.2.2 Climate Change Adaptation Project (CCAP)**

Increase the green cover (carbon sink) by creating an environment for plants to thrive.

- \* Quality soil developing intercropping techniques
- \* Recycling plastic materials into low-cost drip irrigation technology for subsisting farmers.
- \* Farmer controlled natural regeneration.
- \* Agro forestry.

Target: 100 farmers in the Eastern and Volta regions of Ghana.

### **1.2.3 Climate Change Digital Drive**

Most of our online campaigns will be measured with data analytics obtained in relation to the advocacy activities on the various websites used - both mainstream and social media.

## **1.3 Project Deliverables/Achievements**

### **1.3.1 Tree Planting and Climate Change Sensitisation (TPCCS)**

Our tree planting and climate change sensitization activity has seen enormous progress, having reached an estimated number of 2,520 students from October 2022 to February 2023.

With the help and support of both AfEI's core and student volunteers from the University college of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at Bunso in the Eastern region of Ghana, we organized different levels and ranges of Climate change education and tree planting in 14 upper primary and Junior high schools herein listed below.

1. Adawso R/C School
2. Royal Promise School
3. Adawso Presbyterian School
4. Miracle Child Academy
5. Ettukrom Methodist School
6. Bunso M/A School
7. Akwamufie Presbyterian School
8. Compassion International School
9. Apeguso D/A Basic School
10. Osiabura D/A School
11. Frankadua D/A School
12. Abutiame Amesianyakofe D/A School
13. Apeguso Presbyterian School
14. Frankadua E.P. School



The average number of students per class has been estimated to be 30. Our outreach focused on pupils and students from upper primary to Junior high school.

In each of the schools reached for the TPCCSP, we planted an average of 30 trees per school. We have used averages because some schools had enough lands to establish more tree seedlings than others. We have therefore established 420 trees from the outreaches to the various schools. In order to compensate for our targeted 500 trees in the period of 6 months, our newly established club in Royal Promise School has established a tree plant nursery and will be transplanting 300 seedlings in the final week of March 2023 – This tree planting festival will be held at Asikuma in the Eastern Region of Ghana.

Outside of the TPCCSP, we formed sustainable partnerships that enabled us to increase the number of trees planted within this period substantially, we have worked with and supported Odeno Kwafo Akoto III, the King of the Akwamu kingdom to establish an extra 1,800 tree seedlings in his kingdom.

The trees planted in this project include Mangos (*Mangifera indica*), acacia, Mahogany (*Swietenia mahagoni*), and Ofram (*Terminalia superba*).

Do find below a few links to some of our publications on the Tree planting and climate change sensitisation project with the partnerships that were established along the lines;

**1. [https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=pfbid0222WDVC4E9mvZFZ4UiNjGcv36L6tqX2ncPeBLBwgD92CZbxKrKFvUdY8c8gLn3m7kl&id=1072277252806726](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid0222WDVC4E9mvZFZ4UiNjGcv36L6tqX2ncPeBLBwgD92CZbxKrKFvUdY8c8gLn3m7kl&id=1072277252806726)**

**2. [https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=pfbid02yTYMJmLaGKUCX1ddvs3GuH5EdwX5zxB8p6Vd3rT23dxakntcotPykWcAYvqQRiu2l&id=1072277252806726](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02yTYMJmLaGKUCX1ddvs3GuH5EdwX5zxB8p6Vd3rT23dxakntcotPykWcAYvqQRiu2l&id=1072277252806726)**



3. [https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=pfbid02sAtW84H6SUAbnn33GVypEaxzYr dWUK7ar3ZoN2z3PZ9qe8AMHTmHsaGwcMTGXy5xl&id=1072277252806726](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02sAtW84H6SUAbnn33GVypEaxzYr dWUK7ar3ZoN2z3PZ9qe8AMHTmHsaGwcMTGXy5xl&id=1072277252806726)

In our expression of interest, we stipulated that we will be mentoring **5** climate change enthusiastic young people to widen their understanding of the subject and to support them to take positive and relevant action while making decisive career decisions in the knowledge of these challenging concerns in their environment.

We are pleased to advise that we have established a club with **20** climate change enthusiastic young people Basic and Junior high school in Asikuma, exceeding the target by 15 more students. These young children have set up a realistic but ambitious target to establish 1000 trees in the year 2023 in the Asikuma community from their own tree nursery.



Figure 1: AfEI core Member, Michael Larbi with students at Royal promise school for their first Club meeting as shown (a, left side) and (b, right side).







*Figure 2: Second club session at Royal Promise school, members started the establishment of a tree nursery as shown (a, left side) and (b, right side). The batch of trees nursed were of Acacia*

### 1.3.2 Climate Change Adaptation Project (CCAP)

Our CCAP had been drafted to engage 100 local farmers directly on climate smart agricultural practices that has a demonstrable potential to increase the green cover (carbon sink) by creating an environment for plants to thrive and to help the farmers to increase their yields.

We established a one-acre field that consisted of half acre maize(corn), quarter of an acre for cabbage and the other quarter was fallowed for experimental purposes.

It is important to note that, this project was established/started at an off season (November) for corn production, which basically meant most farmers would dare not plant corn in November, as this is usually a period of less rain and this was one reason, we were able to advocate intently to the farmers we engaged on in this project – The technology focuses on the use of easily accessible resources to improve the moisture conservation ability of the soil, better land preparation, use of legumes as soil nutrient improvement and weed control, less or minimal till to keep the structure of the soil intact and significantly improved over seasons of crop production.

The beauty of conservation agriculture is that it develops the soil and the environment over time, and this is why we need to continue to establish crops on the piece of land allocated for this project for at least 4 more production seasons, which in our case will take a period of 2 years to be able to present a full picture to all our stakeholders (farmers, Gower street and the local community leaders).

This will help farmers to appreciate this technology even better. The conventional form of agriculture or crop production practiced by most of our target farmers has been one that depleted the soil of nutrients and structure over production seasons, so it was very apparent that the farmers we engaged with were very enthused and interested in seeing and being a part of this project in its entirety.

We were able to reach 65 farmers directly, out of the 100 targeted at the start of this project, however, it is noted that the farmers we reached will help in indirectly propagating/ advancing the technology to at least 150 other farmers.

The numbers achieved in terms of yield for our half acre corn farm was also staggering!

We had 600kg of maize and we would have harvested 4050 heads of cabbage by 15/03/2023.



Figure 3: Snapshots from the Maize (a, left side) and cabbage (b, right side) demonstrational fields



Figure 4: Photos of our engagement with farmers on our field days as shown (a, left side) and (b, right side).

To be able to help these farmers understand the impact of the technology in advancing the soil structure, water conservation and its eventual impact on green cover, we will need to continue to observe, examine and test the soil/land of this project for at least 4 extra production seasons.

### 1.3.3 Climate Change Digital Drive

From the inception of this project, we have grown our social media following tremendously, we have acquired over 1000 followers onto our following in the past 6 months and been actively sharing updates on our various activities including the climate change adaptation and the tree planting and climate change adaptation projects. The aim of sharing these updates is to inspire other people and organizations to take action and where necessary collaborate with us to take relevant community actions. We do share to recruit volunteers for our activities as well.

We have established an account on Mailchimp for building and distributing our Newsletters and the “Hands off the Atewa Forest” campaign.

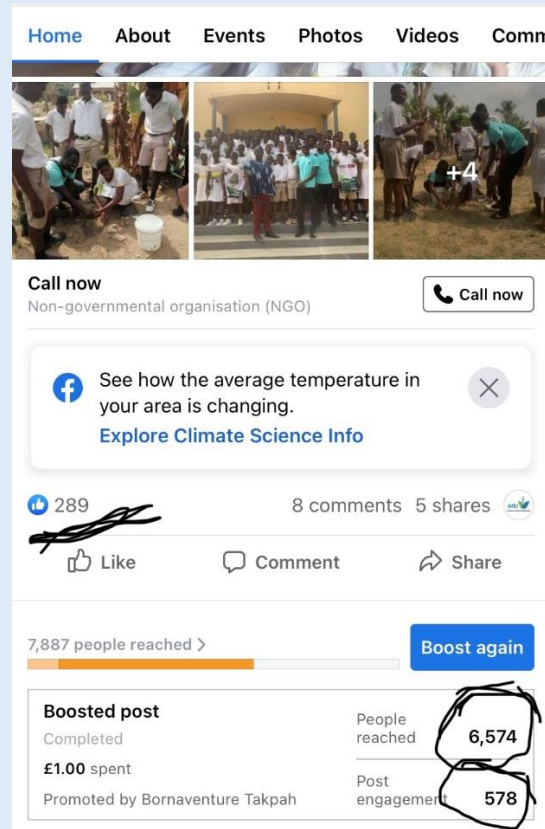
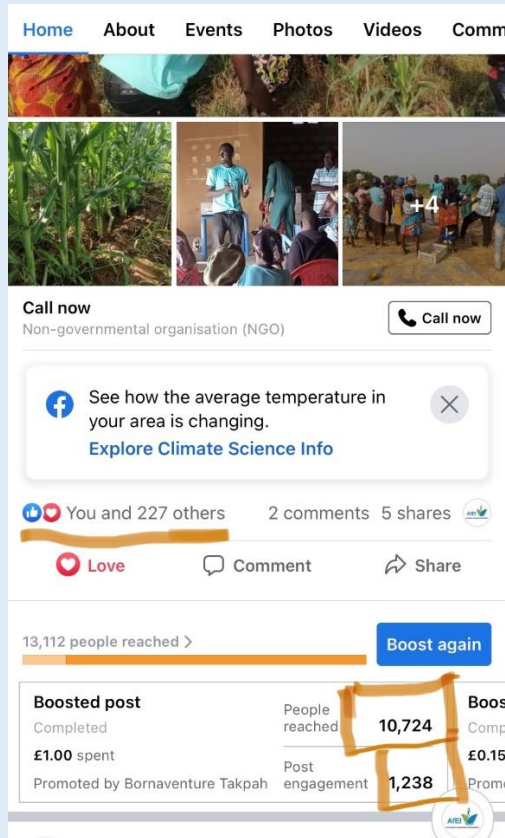
By far, we can build and distribute a monthly circulation of both activities using the powerful tools on Mailchimp.

Find below links to one each of our Newsletters and campaigns.

1. NEWSLETTER: <http://eepurl.com/ijOltf>

2. HANDS OFF THE ACHIMOTA FOREST: <http://eepurl.com/iikJwb>

Find below a numerical representation of some of our social media engagements/reach.



## 1.4 Success Stories

Following the intensification of our digital drive, we have received several messages from some of our followers on social media. We thought these were heartwarming and beautiful to share to our funders to see and be inspired by the impact their benevolence is creating among people whom we believe may be secondary benefactors of the projects we have embarked upon

Below are a few messages received online:

1. *“Hello good morning Alliance for environmental intervention...I really appreciate the effort by the organisation in leading the change to mitigate climate change and it's impact...I'm ready to volunteer” - Mike McClean*

2. *‘Hi there. I love the work you do and I wish to get involved to volunteer my my services.’*  
**-Asira Aaron Azagsekine**
  
3. *‘I want to join your group. More advocacy is needed to safeguard our world’***-Obarima KWADWO gyamfi**
  
4. *‘I have followed your work over the site for a while now and I must commend you all for the great contribution you are offering for the environmental sustainability. I am 36 years old and would love to join this organization as an intern if there's an opportunity. Thank you and keep up the good work!’* - **Abdul Raman Abdul Razak**



## 1.5 Photo Gallery



Tree Planting and Climate Change Sensitization

Day 3

Akwamufie Presby Basic School





