

ANNUAL REPORT



20**23**

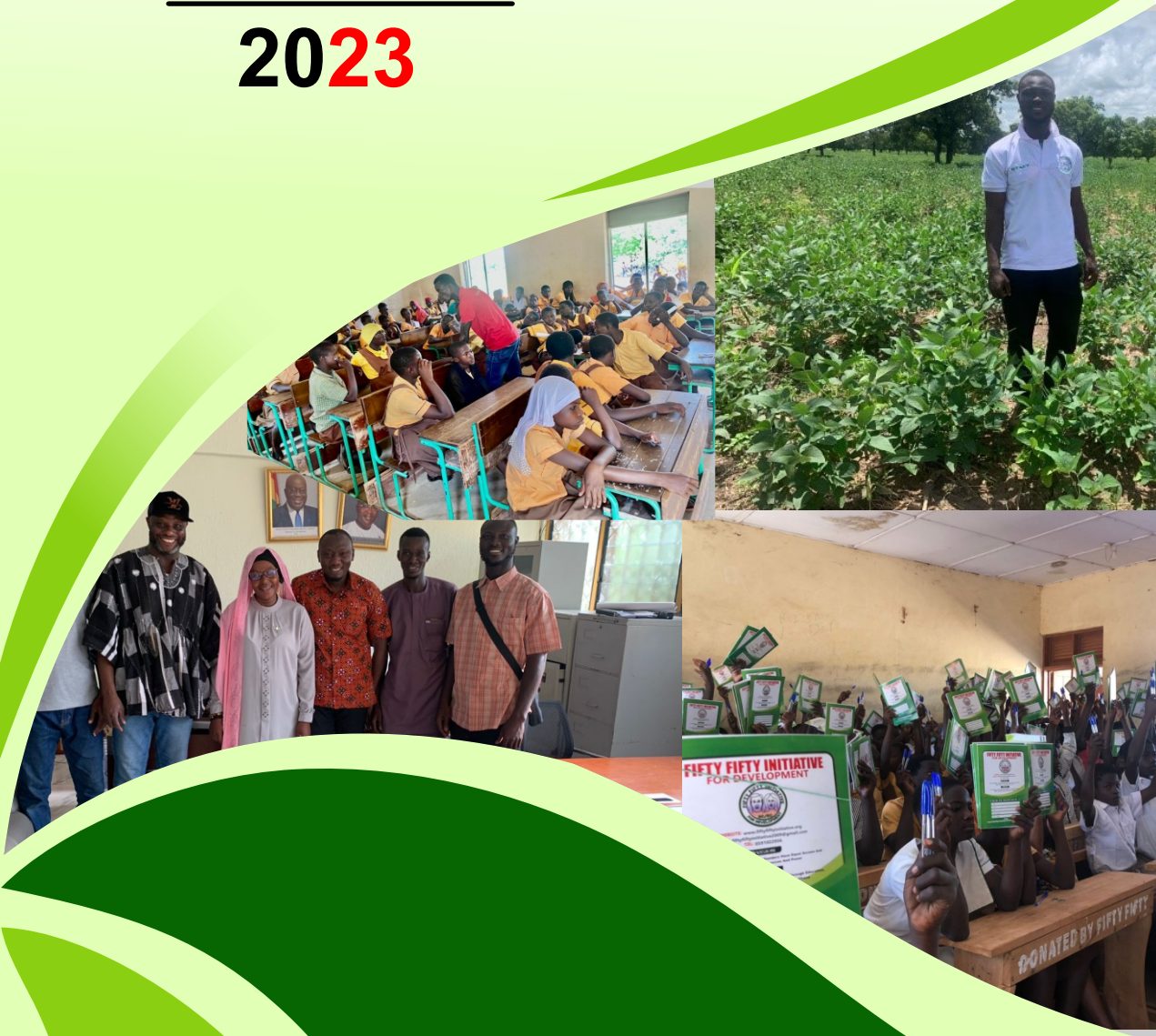


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Introduction

The Fifty Fifty Initiative for Development (FFID) is a non-profit organisation operating in Northern, North East and Savannah regions of Ghana. The organization promotes gender equality interventions in all its programs and administrative set-up. FFID implements programs in five thematic areas and these are:

1. Inclusive Governance Program (IGP).
2. Livelihood and Economic Development (LED)
3. Girl-Child Education Program (GiCEP)
4. Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Health (WASHH)
5. Women in Peace-building (WIP)

During the 2023 fiscal year, FFID in collaboration with stakeholders achieved a

number of significant successes. Key among them are summarized below.



1 Stakeholder engagement: The organisation conducted a familiarization visits to the West Mamprusi, Kumbungu and Sagnarigu Districts to reignite the relationship with key stakeholders including the Ghana Education Service ((GES), Ministry of Health (MHS), Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) National Commission on Civic Education (NCCE), and the representatives of the District Assemblies. The Municipal Chief Executive of the West Mamprusi Municipality Hon. Issahaku Arimeyaw Somo and the Coordinating Director- Mr. Baba Ahmed Abdul Rahman expressed their readiness to collaborate with FFID to achieve mutual goals and objectives.



Plate 1.2: FFID staff with MCE and Coordinator



Plate 1.1: Staff of FFID with staff from Ministry of Health

2 Community Entry and Needs Assessments: Following the support from the Vibrant Village Foundation, FFID expanded its interventions to many more communities in the West Mamprusi, Sagnarigu and Kumbungu Districts including Zua, Yama, Zugu, Kparigu Boamaasa, Walewale, Katariga and Sagnarigu. Community needs assessments was subsequently conducted which shaped FFID interventions and support to communities in the area of Agriculture, Education, Protection and Health. In all the communities visited, the people expressed their preparedness to

cooperate and work with the organisation in achieving mutually beneficial goals.



Plate 1.3: Meeting with stakeholders at the Yama



Plate 1.4: Meeting with stakeholders at Zugu

3 Establish Women Network: The processes for the establishment of women network was started during the year. At least five women groups were identified and sensitized on the operational framework of the women network and the potential benefits of the network to women participation in household and community decision-making processes. Series of planning meetings were held with executives of various women groups and those in leadership positions including government appointees in the district assemblies, political parties, economic and social groupings etc. The formation of the network will be completed in the next fiscal year.

Formation and strengthening of Farmer Based Organisations (FBOs).

Five (5) FBOs with a total membership of 110 (70 females and 40 males) were formed. The FBOs was supported to develop constitutions to govern their activities and operations.

Training of FBOs on Sustainable Agriculture (SA).

4 All members of the FBOs were trained on Sustainable Agriculture (SA) by an Agric Extension Officer from the ministry of food and agriculture office in the West Mamprusi Municipality. The aim of the training

was to equip the FBOs with relevant knowledge and skills on CA to undertake the best and modern farming practices.

5



Plate 1.5: Training farmers on CA at Zoa



Plate 1.6: Sensitisation of Farmers at Zoa

6 Provision of Tractor Service.

The organisation facilitated the ploughing of one acre of land each to 40 members of FBOs at Zua community.

The timely provision of tractor services enabled farmers to plant their seeds on time.

Following the provision of tractor services, the FBOs were supported with improved seeds (cowpea and soya beans) and insecticides to support their farming activities.

This intervention has contributed to 15%

increase in crop yields by the target beneficiaries.



Plate 1.7 Ploughing on-going at Zua



Plate 1.8 Distribution of seeds to farmers at Zuo

7 Monitoring of farms.

The organisation conducted a number of monitoring visits to the farms of the beneficiaries to ascertain the performance of the crops and to give feedback. Majority of the farmers adopted good agronomic practices in their farms.



Plate: 1.9: Visit of FFID staff to selected farms at Zuo



Plate: 1.10: Visit of FFID staff to selected farms at Zuo

8 Formation and strengthening of VSLAs. Five VSLAs with 126 members (88 females and 38 males) were established and supported to mobilize their own funds to support themselves. Members were trained on VSLAs approach and assisted them draw up a constitution. They were also supported with passbooks, saving boxes etc to start their savings. The

share-out of the groups will be done in the next fiscal year.



Plate 10.2: VSLA Group at Katariga



Plate 10.3: VSLA Group at Walwale

9 Disbursement of FIP Loans. FFID introduced an interest free loan scheme dubbed Financial Inclusion Program (FIP) to support the VSLAs. The objective of the fund is to increase access of petty traders and farmers to finance in order to improve productivity and business operations. Two VSLAs with 50 members (38 females and 12males) accessed loans to the tune of GHC 20,000. The loan recovery has so far been 100%.



Plate 10.4 Presentation of FIP Funds to beneficiary at Walewale

10 Monitoring Visits by VVF:

The Regional Partnership Director (RPD)- West Africa: Osman Mohammed conducted monitoring visits to the operational communities of FFID. Specifically, he visited program activities at Zua and Yama in the West Mamprusi municipal. A number of farms were supervised during the visit. The director was impressed with the performance of the crops in the farm and encourage farms to adhere to good agronomic practices. He encouraged FFID to

consider setting-up demonstration farms to promote the SA practices started.



Plate: 10.5: VVF RPD, Staff of FFID and Farmers at Zuo



Plate: 10.6: Meeting of VVF RPD, FFID staff and Teachers of Yama RC School

11 Provision of Writing Dual Desk. At least 150 students were provided with writing dual desk in Yama R/C school in the West Mamprusi Municipality to enhance teaching and learning.

The GES Director Mr. Adam Akankuti and the PTA Chairperson Mr. Sulemana Muniru expressed their appreciation for the support given them.

The Headteacher Mr. Anaba B. Fusheini said "he always feels sad seeing learners lying on the floor to learn but now FFID has put a smile on his face and the teachers as a whole".



Plate 10.7: Before FFID Intervention at Yama RC School



Plate 10.8: After FFID intervention at Yama R/C School

12 Provision of Learning Materials.

At least 326 students comprising of 219 girls and 107 boys were given exercise books and pens to help them in their learning. The support was in response to the call made by teachers and parents on the need to support the students with these essential teaching and learning materials.



Plate10.9: Distribution of teaching and learning materials to learners at Yama



Plate10.10: Distribution of teaching and learning materials to learners at Yama

13 Sensitization on the Importance of Girl-Child Education.

Four schools were sensitised on the need for girl-child education in the West Mamprusi, Sagnarigu and Kumbungu districts. The Executive Director explained to the students particularly Girls that their role is not in the kitchen as widely perceived by society. They can occupy the

highest position in the land if they work hard



Plate10.11 Executive Director sensitizing students of Zugu on Girl Child Education



Plate10.11 Program Coordinator sensitizing students of Zugu on Girl Child Education

14 Staff Capacity Building on VSLAs and Mensural Hygiene: Two days training was organized for staff of FFID on Mensural hygiene with the goal of equipping them with the appropriate knowledge and skills to cascade the training of teenage girls in the operational communities. The training was facilitated by a staff of Songtaba (Bala Hairiya)



Plate 10.12: Hairiya facilitating training sessions for FFID staff



Plate 10.13: FFID staff at the training session

15 Sensitization on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM)

After the training of FFID staff, they embarked on sensitization sessions on mensural hygiene management in the West mamprusi municipal (Walewale girls model school) and Kumbungu District (Zugu D/A JHS). Mensural hygiene commodities were distributed to the students after every sensitization session.



Plate 10.14: Distribution of Sanitary pad to students at Zugu DA JHS



Plate 10.15: Sensitization on mensural hygiene to students at Zugu DA JHS

Major Challenges

1. Difficulty in changing the old methods of farming by some farmers. Some of the farmers did not see the need to adopt sowing in rows method and still insisted in broadcasting method.
2. Few smallholder farmers were supported due to limited budget and funding.
3. Members often delay in coming to meetings especially educative/training meetings because some saw it to be waste of time.
4. Access to the communities is tough because of distance and lack of our own means of transport.
5. Women being intimidated by male counterparts and husbands when contesting for leadership

portfolios. Also, some social norms discriminate the women from holding certain leadership positions in the community.

Conclusion

The year 2023 was indeed a success in so many respects. The key activities planned were achieved and an accounting software (The Manager) procured and installed. Critical logistic including motor-bikes, computers, printers etc were also procured to facilitate the work of the organization. In the next fiscal year, FFID will expand its financial inclusion and agriculture programs as well as the education and protection interventions to reach out to many poor and vulnerable populations in northern Ghana.

MOTTO:

Gender Equality, Foundation For Community Development

VISION

A Society Where People Of All Genders Have Equal Access And Opportunities To Resources And Power

MISSION

To Champion Gender Equality Initiatives Through Education, Skills Development And Advocacy In Ghana

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