



WATER-LILY
FOUNDATION



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Join us:



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Water-Lily Foundation



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Water-Lily Foundation



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Npo License No.:	NPOS/NT15/LN02569/25
Founded:	2021
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MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER



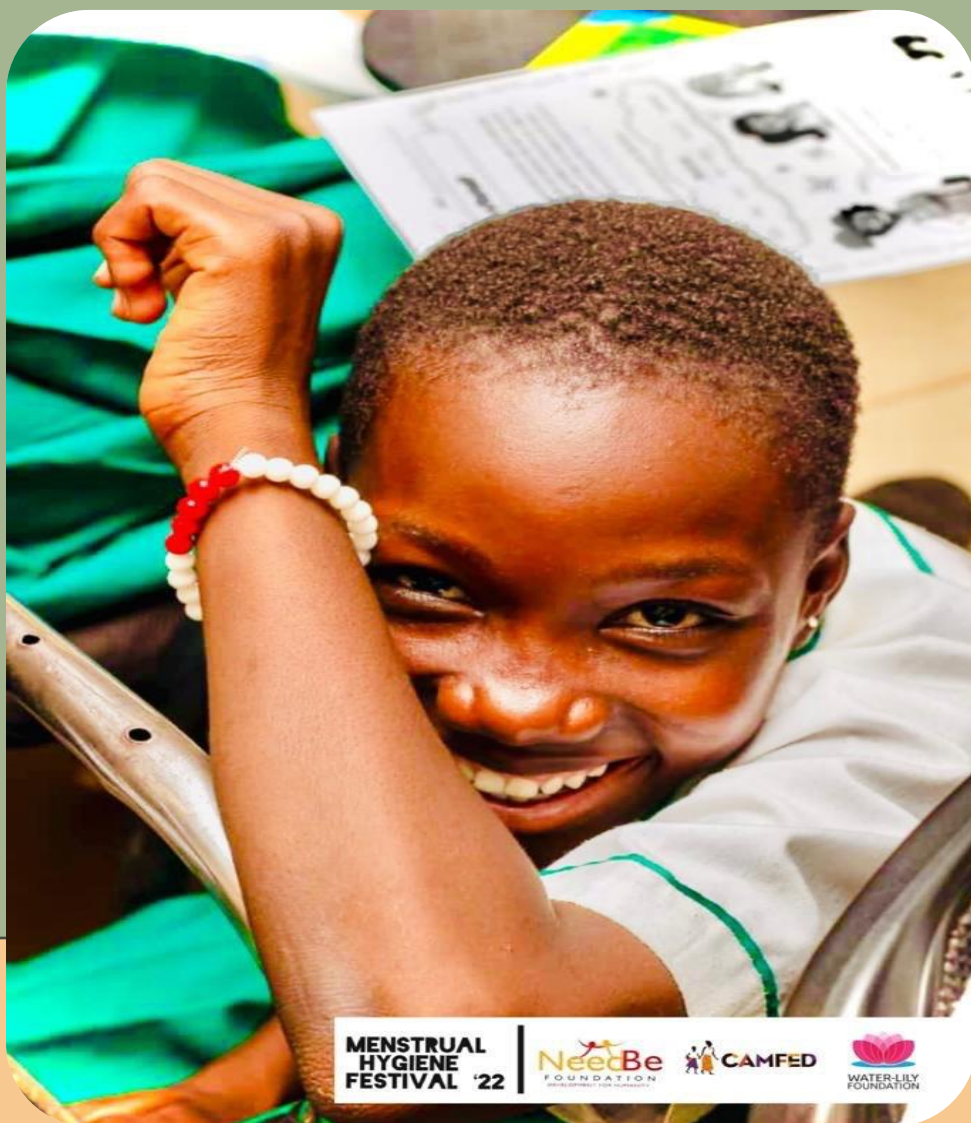
*Dr. Faisal G. Abdul-Samed
(Founder of Water-Lily Foundation)*

The name Water-Lily Foundation is deeply symbolic. The water lily is a unique and resilient plant; it blooms beautifully even in muddy waters. That symbolism reflects our mission: to create meaningful impact in even the most challenging environments, and to stand out through the quality and uniqueness of our work in communities.

We chose this name to remind ourselves and others that transformation is possible anywhere, with the right approach and intent. Our work is not about replicating efforts; it's about setting a new standard for community impact, driven by innovation and integrity.

At the heart of our strategy is Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC). We don't treat it as a secondary tool or an afterthought. For us, SBCC is a core necessity; a powerful approach to influence mindsets, reshape habits, and sustain real change. That's why we invest intentionally in building our capacity in SBCC and helping others adopt it effectively.

IMPACTS



100 Students Empowered
in WASH and Climate Action
at Sakasaka JHS -Tamale.



160 girls from 8 junior high
schools Empowered through
Menstrual Hygiene Festival.

600+
Students Trained in WASH &
Climate Action



120 Students Empowered in
WASH and Climate Action at
Fatih Sultan Mehmet Islamic
School.

www.w-lf.org



STUDENTS IN WASH AND CLIMATE ACTION

Since 2021, over **600 basic and high school students under the age of 18**, across **four districts in Northern Ghana and one in Upper East Region of Ghana**, have benefited from Water-Lily Foundation's WASH, Health and climate action initiatives. Through **practical engagement sessions**, complemented by **interactive storytelling videos and fun-based activities**, these students have demonstrated a **20% improvement in positive behavior change** toward hygiene and environmental responsibility.

From this effort, more than **500 young ambassadors** are nurtured to champion change within their communities, directly influencing their peers and indirectly reaching an additional **1,000 young people** through knowledge sharing and role modeling. With **60% female participation**, our programs have reinforced gender inclusion, empowering young girls as key advocates for sustainable development.

Our trainings have equipped students with practical knowledge on **tree planting and environmental stewardship**, personal hygiene, and the human-driven causes of climate change such as burning waste and its adverse effects, including flooding.

As part of our broader **social and behavior change communication (SBCC) strategies**, we also advanced **literacy projects** over the past four years, fostering reading culture and comprehension among students to strengthen their capacity to learn, question, and innovate.

We believe that **children are the foundation of future youth leadership**, and by instilling values of responsibility, environmental care, and knowledge acquisition early on, we are shaping a generation that will build a more sustainable world for decades to come

Official Commissioning of the Mechanized Borehole; bringing safe, clean water to Botingli community.



The Harsh Reality: Botingli's original water source; unsafe, unclean, and a daily struggle for survival.



30+
Households with improved access to Safe Drinking Water

Clean underground water transformed through mechanized filtration; safe, refreshing, and life-changing for the community.

Construction of the elevated superstructure for the mechanized borehole storage tank.



1

Community Borehole Constructed

Drilling stage



IMPROVED ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER

For decades, the Botingli community in the Savelugu Municipal area endured severe water scarcity and unsafe drinking water, which contributed to rising cases of childhood malnutrition, diarrhea, and poor nutrition outcomes. With the majority of inhabitants relying on farming for their livelihoods, the lack of clean water placed an additional strain on household resilience.

In response, the Water-Lily Foundation intervened with the provision of a **mechanized borehole system**, which now serves **600+ community members across 30+ households**. This project, sustained over the past four years, has become a model of community-driven development. Residents established their own **five-member Water Management Committee**, trained periodically by the Foundation to ensure proper maintenance, inclusivity, and accountability; safeguarding the long-term sustainability of the project.

The impact has been profound:

- **60% reduction in malnutrition and diarrhea cases** among children.
- Significant reduction in the burden on women and girls, who previously walked long distances to fetch water, often missing school or dropping out entirely.
- Greater community ownership and resilience, demonstrating the effectiveness of the Foundation's participatory and sustainable approach.

This initiative not only transformed lives in Botingli but also reinforced our belief that **access to clean water is the foundation of health, dignity, and opportunity**.

**Five-member Water
Management Committee**



STRONG GENDER AND EQUITY LENS



At the Water-Lily Foundation, we believe true community transformation is only possible when women, girls, and marginalized groups are at the center of development. Over the past four years, we have intentionally designed our programs to ensure **equal participation, fair representation, and inclusive impact**. With over **60% female involvement** across our initiatives, we are empowering women and girls to lead change in WASH, climate action, and education, while ensuring men and boys are equally engaged as allies. Our equity-driven approach not only dismantles barriers but also creates opportunities that allow every voice to be heard and every potential to flourish



200+
Youth Empowered

**MONTHLY
EMPOWERMENT
PROGRAM**

THEME: What you need to know about Breast Cancer.

22ND OCT. 2022
10AM

zoom
MEETING ID: 683 8285 9486
PASSCODE: 762339

SPEAKER
ALHASSAN KHADIJA NAPAGA
Volunteer at Water-Lily Foundation.

water-lily foundation
let's talk breast cancer

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www.waterlilyfoundation.org

**MONTHLY
EMPOWERMENT
PROGRAM**

THEME: Volunteerism

**26TH
FEB. 2023**
2PM

zoom
MEETING ID: 683 8285 9486
PASSCODE: 762339

SPEAKER
FAAD ABDUL-RAHAMAN
Project Coordinator at Water-Lily Foundation.

water-lily foundation

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

At the Water-Lily Foundation, we recognize that **youth are not just the leaders of tomorrow, but active changemakers of today**. Over the past four years, we have successfully empowered **200+ young people between the ages of 15 and 35**; a group that represents **38.2% of Ghana's population**. Their energy, creativity, and commitment remain central to our mission of driving sustainable change.

Youth are at the heart of everything we do, whether as **volunteers, project participants, or ambassadors of change**. Through our dedicated platform, **Water-Lily Foundation Youth Connect**, we provide young people with access to **job opportunities, scholarships, fellowships, and volunteering avenues** that enhance their personal and professional growth.

In addition, our **quarterly virtual empowerment sessions** equip young people with practical skills such as **public speaking, leadership, and workplace readiness**, ensuring they are well-prepared for the job market and global opportunities.

This holistic approach has made the Foundation a magnet for youth engagement and innovation. Looking ahead, we are committed to expanding **practical, real-time empowerment projects** in **WASH, Climate Action, and Health**, while creating **livelihood opportunities** through strategic partnerships. Our vision for the next five years is to nurture an empowered generation of young leaders who will champion resilience, equity, and sustainable development across Ghana and beyond.



2
**Youth Climate Policy Briefs Submitted to
 influence COPs and NCCP.**

POLICY BRIEFS

As a **supporting organization of the Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) Ghana**, the Water-Lily Foundation plays a pivotal role in **amplifying youth voices** on climate action and development issues. Each year, we bring together young people from across the **Northern Region of Ghana** to share their experiences, critique existing national policies, and propose innovative solutions for a sustainable future.

These dialogues not only provide a platform for youth expression but also generate **evidence-based insights** that inform our **policy briefs**. Our briefs capture the realities of climate challenges at the grassroots level, alongside youth-driven recommendations, and are fed into **national policy processes and the Conference of Parties (COP)**; since LCOY operates as a subsidiary of the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**.

Through this process, the Foundation has positioned itself as a **bridge between grassroots realities and global policymaking**, ensuring that the perspectives of Northern Ghanaian youth; often those most affected by climate change; are heard at the **highest decision-making levels**.

Looking ahead, we are committed to strengthening this work by expanding youth consultations, collaborating with policymakers, and producing **more targeted policy briefs** that address critical areas such as **climate resilience, WASH, health equity, and gender inclusion**.

2024 FISCAL YEAR IN REVIEW

DATA-INFORMED DECISIONS AND TARGETS

Data plays a foundational role in ensuring that WATER-LILY FOUNDATION focuses interventions on the locations and approaches that yield the greatest impact on Social and Behaviour Change Communication.

The Water-Lily Foundation, took part in the youth on board project that was successfully executed and terminated in 2024. Project was a part of the Youth Opportunity and Transformation in Africa, generously funded by 100% for the children in Denmark and Civil Society in Development.

This was a 2 years long project looking at the impact of COVID-19 on education amongst students in Kumbungu District of the Northern Region of Ghana. This comprehensive evaluation included intensive research and community engagements across 5 sub-districts and 24 schools.



EMPOWERING YOUTH IN CLIMATE ACTION

Youth face real-time climate impact, hence the need to include them in climate action decisions.

As a build up to the Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) in Climate Change, we held a consultation meeting with some selected youth in Northern Ghana on Climate Change, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Gender and Climate Change, and Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience.

The insights gained from this consultation was featured in the 2024 youth climate statements to enable LCOY-Ghana make climate negotiations at the national level.



PROTECTING WATER BODIES

We prioritized the safeguarding of our water bodies from the menace of illegal mining, through issuing online campaign fliers to educate the public on combatting illegal mining.



Do humanity a favor

“

Illegal mining poses a significant threat to our environment, particularly the integrity of our water bodies, which are vital for both ecosystems and human health. This destructive activity exacerbates the adverse effects of climate change. As custodians of Ghana, it is imperative that we work together to safeguard our natural resources and ensure a sustainable future.

NAZID HAFIZ

PRO, Water-Lily Foundation

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Do humanity a favor

“

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene continue to be significant challenges within our local communities. Illegal mining, commonly known as “galamsey” in Ghana, significantly exacerbates these issues by contaminating our clean water sources, damaging aquatic ecosystems, and jeopardizing the livelihoods of numerous individuals.

Let's end this menace now!

Abdulai Abdul-Rahim

CFO, Water-Lily Foundation

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Do humanity a favor

“

Posterity will judge us unkindly, if we sit on the fence and allow our nation to fall into tantrums. Galamsey isn't only a national insecurity, but a threat to intergenerational equity.

It MUST BE STOPPED NOW!

Aminu Gafaru

Operations officer, Water-Lily Foundation

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Do humanity a favor

“

Illegal mining poisons our waters, threatens the health of millions, and jeopardizes future generations. While it profits a few, the cost is borne by all. Clean water is the foundation of life let us protect it.

Stop Galamsey now!

Dr. Faisal Gunu Abdul-Samed

Founder & CEO, Water-Lily Foundation

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waterlilyfoundation648@gmail.com



Do humanity a favor

“

A better tomorrow starts today, say no to illegal mining, and let's restore our water bodies. Together, we can build a sustainable future.

ABIGAIL ASEIDU

Asst. MD, Water-Lily Foundation

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LOOKING AHEAD

As we move into the next chapter of our work in 2025, the Water-Lily Foundation is committed to scaling initiatives that contribute to a circular economy, promote waste management innovation, and strengthen the resilience of urban communities. Our ongoing plans place emphasis on transforming waste from an environmental challenge into a driver of social and economic value.

We are developing integrated programs that encourage waste segregation, recycling, and composting at both community and institutional levels, linking these efforts to income-generating opportunities for local youth and women. By partnering with municipalities, urban planners, and private sector innovators, we aim to pilot and expand solutions that reduce landfill reliance, curb pollution, and extend the life cycle of resources.

In parallel, our work on resilient urban cities will focus on climate-adaptive infrastructure, improved sanitation, and green public spaces ensuring that urban growth is sustainable, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of the most vulnerable.



Thank you

Whether you were able to donate \$5 or more, we thank you for helping us to make an impact.

None of what we have achieved would be possible without the generous support of our local donors and volunteers. We know that the road ahead is long and will be filled with many challenges. We also know that there is not a single force on earth stronger than the power of people coming together for the common good.

Your donations enable us to make this possible.

WATER-LILY FOUNDATION AMBASSADORS





