



**CENTRE FOR ACTIVE LEARNING
AND
INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023**



Ghana National Association for the Deaf using Sign Language to say “I love you” and thank you to CALID and VVF

TABLE OF CONTENT

TABLE OF CONTENT	2
LIST OF ACRONYMS	3
MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	4
ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE.....	5
1.1 ABOUT CALID.....	5
1.2.1 Vision.....	5
1.2.2 Mission.....	5
1.2.3 Goal.....	5
1.2.4 Strategic Objectives	5
1.2.5 Values	6
STRATEGIC REPORT	7
HIGHLIGHTS	7
OUR IMPACT /CHANGE STORIES	8
Collaboration and Partnership.....	19
Donors/Partners.....	19
Other NGOs/Collaborators	19
Key Government Institutions and Community Level Collaborators	19
HUMAN RESOURCE, ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.....	20
Income and Expenditure	20
LESSONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION	21
Lessons Learnt	21
Key Implementation Challenges.....	21
CONCLUSION /RECOMMENDATIONS	21
APPENDIXES	22
Appendix 1: Pictures:.....	22

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACESD	African Canadian Centre for Employment and Skills Development
ASDAB	Anti-Stigma and Discrimination against the Blind
CALID	Centre for Active Learning and Integrated Development
CBOs	Community/Youth Based Organisations
CDM	Community Development Monitors
CETAGE	Citizen Empowerment for Transparent and Accountable Quality Education
CHRAJ	Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DSW	Department of Social Welfare
EC	Electoral Commission
GDCA	Ghana Developing Communities Association
GBU	Ghana Blind Union
GES	Ghana Education Service
GHS	Ghana Health Service
GNAD	Ghana National Association of the Deaf
GSD	Ghana Somubi Dwumde,
INGOs	International Non-Governmental Organisations
ISODEC	Integrated Social Development Centre
MMDCE	Metro, Municipal and District Chief Executive
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MMDAs	Metropolitan, Municipal, District Assemblies
NCCE	National Commission on Civic Education
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NNED	Northern Network for Education Development
Norsaac	A Ghanaian NGO
NRYN	Northern Regional Youth Network
NPO	Non-Profit Organisation
NYA	National Youth Authority
OXFAM	A British NGO
PRO	Public Relation Officer
PTA	Parent Teacher Association
PWD	People with Disabilities
RCC	Regional Coordinating Council
RING SS	Feed the Future Resilience in Northern Ghana Systems Strengthening
SHS	Senior High School
SMC	School Management Committee
Songtaba	A Ghanaian NGO
SRYN	Savannah Regional Youth Network
STAR	Strengthening Transparency Accountability and Responsiveness
Urbanet	A Ghanaian NGO
USAID	United States of America International Development
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association
VVF	Vibrant Village Foundation

MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 2023 annual report of CALID is dedicated to our beneficiaries, communities, citizen groups, staff, partners and to both our students interns and volunteers. Your effort and endeavour were truly remarkable and highly appreciated.

With the support of you all most especially our donor, we were able to reach out to about 12, 700 people (4,370female / 5,330male) making up of at least 8,795 direct beneficiaries and over 3,805 indirect beneficiaries. This expansion reflects a considerable increase in the impact made by CALID. Our achievement touched on diverse categories of beneficiaries, including 240 (140female / 100male males, females, and Persons with Disability (PwDs).

The Board and Management says a big thank you the Vibrant Village Foundation (VVF) for the great support in the past two years for contributing towards our financial standing. We look forward for your continued support to CALID. We are very much thankful for the gift of life and health in 2023 and pray for many of such in years to come.

Through support, CALID was able to create opportunity to over 200 children access to education as 5 unused or abandoned schools since 2015 have been adopted and registered under the GES and given registered numbers. CALID have also brought smile to persons with disabilities. We facilitated their access to; education, health and other public services. The education of 45 visual impaired children has been enhanced.

In the course of the year, citizen groups particularly youth and disability groups/networks played critical in the public space. Topical issues such as; poor performance and falling standards of education, lack of sign language interpreters in hospitals, bad policy on menstrual hygiene of girls such as taxing sanitary pads were discussed.

Girls' education is growing in Northern Ghana as girls are confidence and assertiveness levels of young girls was built to resist early and force marriages, sexual abuse and harassments among others leading to unwanted pregnancies.

Major deaf and minor hearing youth transformed as they were provided with education, skills, and supported individually to make informed choices to lead drug-free lives.

CALID has contributed an increased income, nutrition and food baskets of communities. **377 acres** of land ploughed for farmers in the Savannah Region of Ghana including 46 women farmers.

CALID looks forward to working with you to deliver another year fruitful of great impact.

Thank you.

**Mr Coleman Agyeyomah,
Board Chairman**

**Mohammed Awal Sumani Bapio,
Executive Director -CALID**

ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE

1.1 ABOUT CALID

The Centre for Active Learning and Integrated Development (CALID) was formed in April, 2001 as a Non-Governmental, Non-profit and Non-Partisan organisation committed to the promotion of quality life for the poor and marginalized in society particularly women and children.

CALID is registered with the Registrar General's Department with registration number: **CG203202015** and with the Non-Profit Organisation (NPO) with registration number: **DSW 3053**. CALID has over sixteen years' experience in development work. CALID major areas of interest/thematic areas are **Education, Governance, Health and Livelihood**.

CALID, which is headquartered in Tamale in the Northern Region, operates in the North East, Northern and Savannah Regions of Ghana, and has a sub office in the Sawla-Tuna-Kalba District of the Savannah Region.

1.1.1 Board of Directors and Staff

CALID has a nine-member (five males and four females) Board of Directors appointed on the basis of professional competences, skills, knowledge and interest in community development. CALID currently has seven permanent staff members comprising two males and five females as well as six volunteers/interns. CALID also has a three-member Senior Management Team responsible for the day-to-day running and decision-making of the organisation.

1.2 OUR VISION, MISSION, GOAL, STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND VALUES

1.2.1 Vision

A just society with equal opportunities, especially for young women and young men, and equitable distribution of public services.

1.2.2 Mission

To work with communities and identified groups especially groups of young people, to fight injustice and promote equitable access to public services.

1.2.3 Goal

To build the capacities of right holders and communities to access their rights to: quality education, good governance, quality health delivery and secure livelihood for their wellbeing.

1.2.4 Strategic Objectives

1. To improve learning outcomes and improve skills through quality learning and appropriate training.

2. To improve the system of governance where citizens are guaranteed their rights to participate in decision making within a transparent and accountable leadership.
3. To secure access to quality health delivery services especially for the poor and vulnerable in urban and rural communities.
4. To secure access of poor and marginalized women to decent livelihood through access to productive resources, skills training and enterprise development.

1.2.5 Values

CALID is guided by these values:

1. Equity and Justice
2. Mutual Respect
3. Honesty & Transparency
4. Solidarity with the poor and marginalized.

1.3 Our Strategy and Approach to Work

- Human Rights Based Approach to development
- Participation
- Promoting Gender Equity
- Partnership and Collaboration
- Learning and Sharing

1.4 Theory of Change

CALID's theory of change is an empowered citizen especially the youth and girls driving the agenda of change in their communities through vibrant networks, groups and coalitions that challenge duty-bearers in dealing with developmental programmes.

1.5 Projects

CALID current project include;

1. Anti-Stigma and Discrimination against Blind People –(ASDAB)
2. Citizen Empowerment for Transparent and Accountable Quality Education (CETAGE)
3. Livelihood Opportunities for Women (LOW)
4. Empowerment for Women in Agriculture (EWLA)
5. Empowering Women and Children in Nutrition Resilience in Northern Ghana (EmWoC Nutrition)

STRATEGIC REPORT

HIGHLIGHTS

Over the last year 2023, CALID has experienced significant progress and learned valuable lessons from the implementation of her projects. One of the most notable achievements is the expansion of our outreach to about 12, 700 people making up of at least 8,795 direct beneficiaries and over 3,805 indirect beneficiaries. This expansion reflects a considerable increase in the impact, especially considering the diverse categories of beneficiaries, including males, females, and disabled persons.

Several significant initiatives have been undertaken, focusing on key areas like Education, Governance, Healthcare, and Livelihood. Challenges in the education system, such as inadequate infrastructure and issues examination malpractices, have been addressed through CALID's program of promoting transparency and inclusive education. In governance, the emphasis has been on enhancing youth participation and citizen engagement in decision-making processes. Healthcare initiatives have targeted disparities in access, particularly for vulnerable communities, with efforts to improve infrastructure and equity. Additionally, empowering young women living in poverty has been a priority, with programs aimed at improving their livelihoods through education, skill development, and entrepreneurship. These efforts collectively signify a robust approach to fostering social development and empowerment in various sectors of Ghanaian society.

A key lesson learned during the past year was the effectiveness of allowing citizens and youth networks to lead interventions that directly affect them. This approach has proven to be successfully executed and yielded greater success. It highlights the importance of community involvement and empowerment in the success of development initiatives. By entrusting the citizens and youth with the leadership of interventions, CALID has recognized the value of local knowledge and engagement in driving positive change.

CALID focuses on the five strategic objectives geared towards the organizational ultimate aim and consequently its development and the empowerment of people disadvantaged by unequal power, people living in poverty and underserved population in our jurisdiction.

The focus areas are;

1. Right to quality training, learning and social inclusion
2. Rights and voices of citizens
3. Access to health
4. Livelihood options
5. Organisational development

The year 2023's activities have focused on these areas mentioned above contributing to the achievement of our overall strategic plan. In doing that, we are improving education, governance and health services as well as enhancing livelihood options, and promoting menstrual hygiene.

OUR IMPACT /CHANGE STORIES

Change Story 1: Empowerment through Livelihood Options: -Contribution to Food needs of Ghana

CALID's baseline survey in farming communities revealed challenges, such as insufficient tractor services. In response to these challenges, successful initiatives embarked upon included supporting farming activities, providing training, and addressing the specific needs of these communities. CALID has contributed to improving livelihoods and fostering sustainable agricultural practices among women farmers. With the power of a tractor acquired, we have been able to plough about **377 acres** of field lands to women and other farmers. This has increased the income, nutrition and food baskets of communities. Even with an average yield of five bags per acre, our farmers can contribute to about **1,885 bags** of various crops to the food needs of Ghana.



Through this project, women farmers are receiving critical support in the form of land preparation, tractor services, and financial literacy training. This initiative aims to uplift and empower women in the agricultural sector, creating positive impacts on their lives and the society as a whole. Women are now able to engage in productive agricultural activities, enhance food security, generate income and nutrition for their families.

50 women were empowered through financial literacy training a crucial component of successful entrepreneurship. See link [Empowerment for women in Agriculture \(EWIA Project\)](#).



Supporting Women farmers to harvest their produce

Change Story 2: Celebrating Excellence in Agriculture: The Story of a Visually Impaired Farmer

Congratulations to Mr. Alhassan Abubakari, the Northern Regional Vice President for the Ghana Blind Union (GBU), on his well-deserved recognition as one of the best farmers in the Sagnerigu Municipal during the 2023 Farmers Day Celebration held at Kulnyevila. Mr. Abubakari extended his heartfelt thanks and gratitude to CALID and the [Vibrant Village Foundation](#) for the support to him on his journey. He was happy for the dedicated contribution CALID is making to improve agriculture for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in Ghana.



Mr. Alhassan Abubakari presenting his award to CALID as an organization that supported him

According to Mr. Alhassan Abubakari, “Your support makes a significant impact, and we look forward to continuing this meaningful journey together. Let's empower and uplift the agricultural community, making strides towards a more inclusive and sustainable future”.

Change story 3: A Beacon of Brilliance: Mohammed Yakubu's Journey with CALID and GES

In a small village nestled amidst the vast savannah of Northern Ghana, a young boy named Mohammed Yakubu had always been known for his bright eyes and brilliant mind. At the Bagabaga Demonstration School Complex, his thirst for knowledge was unquenchable, and his passion for learning knew no bounds. However, as time passed, a cloud of concern loomed over his education - his vision was failing him.



At this age, Mohammed's struggle with his deteriorating eyesight became apparent. Squinting to read the words on the chalkboard or deciphering the texts in his books became increasingly challenging. As the days went by, he found it difficult to keep up with his classmates, and his once vibrant enthusiasm began to wane.

Recognizing the urgent need for assistance, the Northern Regional Special Education Division of the Ghana Education Service stepped in

to help Mohammed. They collaborated with CALID an organization they know to be dedicated to supporting PWDs. The combined efforts were geared towards ensuring Mohammed received the necessary aid to continue his education and fulfil his potential.

The first step was to provide Mohammed with reading glasses. As CALID fitted him with his new spectacles, a spark reignited in the young boy's eyes. The world around him became clearer, and he could once again gaze at the horizon of possibilities that education had to offer. With a renewed sense of hope and determination, Mohammed felt ready to conquer any obstacles in his path.

Despite the positive change, the reality remained that Mohammed's vision was still in decline. The Bagabaga Demonstration School Complex acknowledged his brilliance but realized that their resources might not be enough to cater adequately to his needs. It was then that the collaborative effort of the GES and CALID extended further, encouraging Mohammed's relatives to consider sending him to the Wa School for the Blind.

Though apprehensive about the idea of leaving his familiar surroundings and loved ones behind, Mohammed's parents will one day understand the importance of this opportunity. The Wa School for the Blind is renowned for its inclusive and supportive environment, tailored to empower students like him to thrive. It offered specialized education, adaptive tools, and a community of peers who could relate to his experiences.

His journey will stand as a testament to the transformative impact of organizations like CALID and the commitment of the Ghana Education Service to create an enabling environment for all

students. Mohammed's story will become a beacon of hope, encouraging others to embrace their challenges and embrace a future full of promise and opportunity.

Change Story 4: Approval for the Adoption of Unused or abandoned Schools in Central Gonja District of Savannah Region

In the course of the year, CALID has advocated for the registration of five unused or abandoned schools built since 2015 including Nyantin D/A Primary School. These schools have now been adopted into the GES system waiting for teacher postings. These schools have finally been registered by government and given registered numbers. These schools will be posted with teachers and given the needed resources for the running of these schools.

This happened after CALD engaged the; media, Central Gonja District Assembly with the Savannah Regional Youth Network to present letters to the District Education Director and the District Chief Executive, on an abandoned primary school at NYANTANG Community.

The call was equally echoed through the World Literacy Day, where we reflected on the transformative power of education using the young minds in Nyantin community as a case. CALID has worked to ensure that children in these areas have access to education.

Every child deserves the opportunity to learn, dream, and create a brighter future. Let us join hands in supporting literacy initiatives and ensuring that no child is left behind.

Together, we can build a world where knowledge empowers, inspires, and brings about lasting peace and sustainability.

Change Story 5: Fighting Stigma and Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities: Inclusive Development for All

One of CALID's most remarkable success stories that deserves our recognition is our extraordinary journey in collaboration with the Ghana Blind Union (GBU) and [Ghana Somubi Dwumadie](#) during celebrations of World Sight Days. CALID dedication and achievements have served as a guiding light for the visually impaired community, paving the way for a more inclusive world where access to; education, health and empowerment are fundamental rights. These days are used for the GBU to call for the society to develop a positive culture of call and support and positive language. It is imperative that we unite in our steadfast refusal to tolerate any form of discrimination against individuals with disabilities, asserting that every person, regardless of their abilities, is entitled to respect and equal opportunities. Join us in offering our wholehearted support to the GBU, as they work together to enhance the prospects and well-being of the visually impaired. Together, we have the power to illuminate a path toward a more compassionate and inclusive society.

Again, CALID joined other CSOs and used the World Mental Health Day, which was observed annually on October 10, 2023 to address the universal human rights of PWDs. The year's theme, 'Mental Health is a Universal Human Right,' was celebrated by CALID and other recipients of grants from Ghana Somubi Dwumadi through a film screening highlighting evidence and effective grants for mental health and disability inclusion. We delved into the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities, including those related to healthcare access, such as the lack of

assistance for blind individuals, limited sign language interpretation at hospitals, and inadequate mental health units. Participants were dismayed to learn that Ghanaian medical and health institutions do not provide training opportunities for individuals with disabilities.



REVIEW / ACHIEVEMENTS

GOAL 1: IMPROVE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND IMPROVED SKILLS THROUGH QUALITY LEARNING AND APPROPRIATE TRAINING

This objective seeks to address key challenges of education in Ghana especially Northern Ghana. CALID broadly looked at issues around: poor performance, disabilities and inclusion, retention and completion rates especially for girls, quality of teaching and learning.

Interventions around **Education** over the years looks at right to quality training, learning and social inclusion. In the course of the year, CALID embarked on;

1. Supporting local civil society networks / Citizen Groups to continue to engage and act on educational issues going forward in a systemic approach.
2. Linked networks with other actors to campaign for the reduction of barriers to the progress of girls' education and inclusion.
3. Supported 45 visual impaired children with transport fares and other braille materials.
4. Embarked on reproductive health education to reduce pregnancies and hence, drop outs.

Outcome 1: Increased number of students especially girls and teenage mothers returning to complete school and gender parity at basic schools

In the course of the year, CALID has advocated for the registration of five unused or abandoned schools built since 2015 including Nyantang school adopted into the GES system. These schools have finally been registered by government and given registered numbers. These schools will be posted with teachers and given the needed resources to run. The Nyantang school has been renovated after our great intervention. This happened after various engagements with the; media, District Assembly, Ghana Education Service and the Savannah Regional Youth Network. At these meetings, we presented letters to the District Education Director and the District Chief Executive, on an abandoned primary school at NYANTANG Community. A documentary was also made by TV3 on the situation and aired at the national level.

Enhanced the education of 45 visual impaired children. CALID supported visual impaired students with transport fares, reading lens and other braille materials to facilitate their education.

Again, opportunity has been opened to over thousand children to education in two communities in the Tamale Metro and Sagnerigu Municipal. Johnshegu and Dabogshe were communities that never had a school. CALID initiated and constructed a school each for these communities and these schools were adopted by the Anglican and the Catholic Education Units. Beyond this, we also supplied them with 600 textbooks.

Outcome 2: Reduced early marriages, pregnancies especially amongst female students in basic schools

Early marriages, pregnancies especially amongst female students in basic schools including early and force marriages of young girls is reducing in Northern Ghana. CALID has also worked with

youth networks at the various regional levels to engage stakeholders on barriers like early and force marriages of young girls. This has contributed to an increased in teenage mothers' returning to continue with their education. The knowledge and skills gain had helped them to resist barriers to teenage and force marriages. This in itself is increasing their progress in education and career development. We have also continued our work in promoting menstrual hygiene so as to address teenage pregnancies among young women.

Outcome 3: Improved reproductive health especially for girls

Reproductive health education has improved generally among girls hence reduction in teenage pregnancies and school drop outs. CALID has embarked on the promotion of menstrual hygiene educational campaigns an initiative, contributing to addressing teenage pregnancies. We distributed sanitary pads to young girls in the North East Gonja District of Savannah Region.

Outcome 4: Improved learning and teaching/education outcomes

CALID supported local civil society networks / Citizen Groups to continue to engage stakeholders and duty holders to act on educational issues. The leadership in the education system were engaged on how to improve on learning and teaching outcomes. We emphasized on empowerment and trainings through activities like community advocacy, institutionalizing local groups, and staff development.

As a result, the Regional Oversight Education Committee evaluated the performance of education in the various Municipals and Districts in the Savannah Region. The Savannah Regional Youth Network embarked on engagement missions with the Savannah Regional Ghana Education Service (GES) and the Regional Coordinating Council (RCC) on poor education situation in the region. At one of the engagements, they looked at the lack of effectiveness and functioning District Oversight Education Committees in the region.

Outcome 5: Improved Gender parity in basic school

To improve gender parity in basic schools, CALID used the strategy of safeguarding by working with communities and youth. The approach had the full involvement of the youth as such, the youth networks are contributing to protect girls from all form of sexual harassment and abuse. As a result, Mr. Seidu Mandela, the PRO of the Savanna Youth Network intervened and is protecting vulnerable girls from all forms of abuse. According to him, *“because of the training organized for us on safeguarding, I reported a teacher to GES on an account of impregnating a student and he was arrested and dealt with accordingly”*.

Outcome 6: Increased enrolment and completion in technical and vocational institutions

In the course of the year, CALID supported 45 visual impaired children with transport fares, other braille materials and reading lens. The students are learning various types of technical and vocational skills at the Wa School for the Blind.

GOAL 2: IMPROVE SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE WHERE CITIZENS ARE GUARANTEED THEIR RIGHTS TO PARTICIPATE IN DECISION MAKING WITHIN A TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP.

The goal aims at improving citizens' participation including women, girls, youth and minority groups in local governance at all levels. It also strengthens the voices of citizens on governance systems.

Outcome 1: Increased citizens voices in decision making and providing critical feedback on decisions that affect them.

Citizen groups particularly the youth and disability groups/networks have monitored public services such as; poor performance and falling standards of education in Northern Ghana, lack of sign language interpreters in hospitals or in our health services, bad policy on menstrual hygiene of girls by taxing sanitary pads and other services like providers of utilities.

Radio programs were conducted in the course of the year aimed at increasing citizen participation in governance, and disaster management. These efforts aimed to foster a more inclusive, participatory governance system and enhance community resilience.

Supported humanitarian efforts around disaster management in risk prone locations. Much effort was made to educate communities in risk prone areas on disaster management.

Outcome 2: Youth advocating and influencing changes on issues affecting them from the family through community to district level.

Regional Youth Networks have become advocates on tropical developmental matters. They engage service providers in the event of poor services to citizens. These youth networks have gained the confidence of the media as they contribute to national discourse such as discussions around the budget.

Outcome 3: Increased visibility in activities by young women, often supported by their male colleagues.

Recognition of the effectiveness of allowing citizens and youth networks to lead interventions is a key success for CALID. This approach not only empowers young women for that matter the community but it also ensures a more successful execution of projects. The approach of community-led interventions promotes confidence among young women to engage stakeholders. Additionally, contributes to the ownership of projects by the community, essential for project sustainability.

GOAL 3: INCREASE ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH DELIVERY SERVICES ESPECIALLY FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE IN URBAN AND RURAL COMMUNITIES.

Our **Health** thematic area aims at access to health by all. The 2023 activities also strengthened the abilities of young girls beyond menstrual hygiene education to building their confidence and assertiveness to resist early and force marriages, sexual abuse and harassments among others leading to unwanted pregnancies.

Outcome 1: Improved health indicators in three regions

Major challenges faced by individuals with disabilities related to healthcare access include; lack of assistance for blind individuals, limited sign language interpretation at hospitals, and inadequate mental health units.

In other to improve access to health services, the Ghana National Association of the Deaf called for sign language interpreters in major hospitals in Ghana.

Equally the Ghana Blind Union raised the issue of inadequate support at the various hospitals for visual impaired persons. Thus, lack of assistance for blind individuals at the hospitals or health centres.

Begin to increase uptake of maternal and child health and family planning services.

On the part of mental health, major deaf and minor hearing youth are transformed as they were provided with education, skills, and supported individually to make informed choices to lead drug-free lives. It was noted that in Ghana, the health facilities or hospital there are inadequate mental health units.

Improved nutrition among women and children in our operational areas. CALID is working to increase knowledge and practice of improved infant and young child feeding, including effective breastfeeding and complementary feeding, among mothers of children under 5 years of age. We are also improving the dietary diversity among pregnant and lactating women to reduce anemia and improve birth outcomes.

CALID facilitates the improvement of early childhood development and social protection at the community level. Our effort seeks to enhance early childhood development, responsive care, and social protection through innovative strategies. We also promote care-seeking behaviors for newborn and childhood illnesses among women with children under 5 years.

Outcome 2: Improved health facilities in rural communities in the regions

Opportunity was created for the Ghana National Association of the Deaf to call for sign language interpreters in major hospitals in the Tamale environs and Ghana at large. The deaf community end up going through wrong medical assessment and treatment.

The Ghana Blind Union equally raised the issue of inadequate support at the various hospitals for visual impaired persons.

Outcome 3: Reduced malpractices in government hospitals

Patients attending the four major hospitals in the Tamale Metro continue to report issues of suspected extortion to CALID and the League of Youth for redress. Citizens also continue to report such cases through the hotlines posted at vantage places at the various hospitals.

Outcome 4: Increased attendance in both rural and urban health facilities

CALID's success in health-related initiatives is evident in our efforts to improve per capita attendance at health facilities in Northern Ghana. By increasing demand for health services and educating patients on their rights, CALID has contributed to enhancing health outcomes in the region. Additionally, our focus on reproductive health education, particularly addressing teenage pregnancies, demonstrates a proactive approach to tackling health risks for young women.

Outcome 5: Reduced pregnancies among female students

CALID embarked on the promotion of menstrual hygiene education to young girls. The purpose was to particularly address teenage pregnancies as one way of improving health indicators in the North East, Northern and Savannah regions of Ghana. 500 sanitary pads were provided to young girls. Here, menstrual hygiene awareness among girls was promoted as a way of addressing teenage pregnancies.

Also, confidence and assertiveness levels of young girls has been built for them to resist early and forced marriages, sexual abuse and harassments among others leading to unwanted pregnancies. Capacities of young girls strengthened the understanding and ability of young girls to resist issues that pre-dispose them to unwanted pregnancies and associated health risks



CHV from Gbangu and the Executive Director of CALID introducing a Nutrition project to communities

GOAL 4: TO SECURE ACCESS OF POOR AND MARGINALIZED WOMEN TO DECENT LIVELIHOOD

Livelihood options as a focused area looked more at identified challenges like; insufficient tractor services and farm inputs among others. This objective is looking at promoting livelihood opportunities in communities more especially for youth and women. Access to decent livelihood and productive resources, skills and entrepreneurship for women and youth created.

Outcome 1: Women and men acquire technical and essential skills and are capable of earning decent livelihoods.

Promoted farming practices among young women and disabled farmers. Farm inputs like; fertilizer and weedicides were provided to young women, women and a disabled farmer. Educational awareness farming practices were given to farmers.

377 acres of land ploughed for farmers around the Central and North East Gonja Districts out of which 46 women farmers benefited. As a result, contributed to the food, nutrition and income levels of women and children in communities. This was made possible because, CALID acquired a tractor which supported the farming activities of women farmers.

The only visual impaired farmer supported Mr. Alhassan Abubakari, has been recognised as one of the best farmers in the Sagnerigu Municipal during the 2023 Farmers Day Celebration under the PWDs category.

Outcome 2: Youth and women groups acquire skills, competencies and opportunities for social and economic good

The capacities of groups on financial management, financial literacy and group dynamics, among others have been built.

Outcome 3: 50 VSLAs are active and functional in communities.

Formed VSLAs and related member-led economic groups have been strengthened in the Central and North East Gonja Districts. CALID is also facilitating linkages to value chains and market opportunities for entrepreneurs and smallholder producers in operational areas.

Outcome 4: Increased levels of financial literacy and management.

Financial management, financial literacy and group dynamics, among others of women have been built.

OUR SUPPORTERS AND DONORS

Collaboration and Partnership

Our partnership with organisations is guided by our mission, vision and core values.

Donors/Partners

Major donors of CALID are;

1. Ghana Somubi Dwumde
2. OXFAM
3. Feed the Future Resilience in Northern Ghana Systems Strengthening (RING 2 SS)
4. Vibrant Village Foundation (VVF)

Other NGOs/Collaborators

Other NGOs and collaborators are;

1. African Canadian Centre for Employment and Skills Development (ACESD)
2. GDCA
3. ISODEC
4. Norsaac
5. NNED
6. Songtaba
7. Tax Justice Coalition
8. Urbanet

Key Government Institutions and Community Level Collaborators

Government Institutions Collaborators	Community Level Collaborators
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ghana Education Service (GES)• Ghana Health Service (GHS)• Department of Social Welfare• Regional Coordinating Councils (RCCs)• Metro, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs),• Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ),• National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE),• National Youth Authority (NYA)• Electoral Commission (EC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Traditional/Religious Authorities• Community Based Organisations (CBOs)• Community Development Monitors (CDMs)• Community Health Volunteers (CHVs)• Youth Networks• Parent Teacher Association (PTA)• School Management Committee (SMC)• Girls Clubs /Parliament• Young Women• Ghana Blind Union (GBU),• Ghana National Association of Deaf (GNAD)

HUMAN RESOURCE, ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Human Resource

The staff strength of CALID as at the end of the year 2023 stood as 15 (7 males /8 females). Out of these 15 staff, 8 (4 males /4 females) of them were paid staff while 7 (3 males /4 females) were volunteers/interns. The leadership of CALID is headed by the Executive Director. He is being assisted by the Programme Co-Ordinator and Finance and Administration Manager. The Executive Director has the overall responsibility for the organisation including recruiting staff, judicious use of resources and overall accountability to stakeholders. The Programme Co-Ordinator and Finance and Administration Manager responsible for other programme, finance and administrative functions. In the course of the year, we have also recruited a Nutrition Specialist who is responsible for the health and nutrition components of our programme.

Other key organizational capacity development initiatives worked on were:

1. **Technological Upgrade:** In acknowledgment of the contemporary digital landscape, CALID will continue to have an in-service training for its staff and volunteers in Information Technology. The training would cover areas such as website management, graphic design, software management, and other important technologies. This technological upgrade is crucial for achieving organizational objectives in the digital age.
2. **Visibility/Promotion:** In the course of the year, CALID started developing posters and flyers on events and also on social media. We have reviewed two of our strategic documents to include; finance and human resource.
3. **Training in Humanitarian and Human Security:** CALID emphasized its work in humanitarian and human security, especially in disaster management and peacekeeping during elections. The organization has built the capacities of institutions, youth groups, and networks in managing these areas. This training is essential for CALID's continued contribution to peace and stability in the region.
4. **Acquisition of Office Space for the organization:** Continuing with the office building reflects a commitment to providing a conducive working environment for the staff. This could not work this year but have been able to move to a new place which is better than the previously occupied one.
5. **Livelihood Options:** As a results of the reduction in donor supports in mitigating challenges of the less privilege and marginalized in the communities, CALID acquired a tractor service for not only contributing to our livelihood plans, but also serve as a means of sustainability.

Income and Expenditure

Our income for the fiscal year 2022 stood at **GHC631,584.00** and that of 2023 also stood at **GHC935,540.00**, an increase of 32.5% a great improvement over the last year. CALID will continue the extensive fundraising both internally and externally.

LESSONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

Lessons Learnt

The idea of selecting PWDs for our monitoring and evaluation was a difficult choice we made. We looked at the cost involve, communication barrier especially with the deaf people. However, meeting with them created a huge impact. CALID through these meetings understood better key developmental gaps in government policies towards PWDs. Challenges raised included;

- Lack of sign language interpreters at various health centres,
- Lack of assistance given to blind people seeking for healthcare and
- Inadequate mental health units in hospitals.

Key Implementation Challenges

1. Lack of sign language interpreters at various health centres: This discourages our brothers from the deaf community to hospitals. They adopt to self-medication or they are wrongly diagnose thereby given wrong medication. They are therefore relying on us to see to it that the situation is resolved.
2. Generally, persons with disabilities including mental health are challenged on several issues including; lack of assistance given to blind people seeking for healthcare and inadequate mental health units in hospitals.
3. Teenage Pregnancies and Reproductive Health Risks: CALID's focus on addressing teenage pregnancies and associated health risks indicates a concern about the vulnerability of young women in the region.
4. CALID has no dedicated staff to handle website uploads thereby the entire Information Computer Technology sector as a result, content uploads delay.

CONCLUSION /RECOMMENDATIONS

It is our recommendation that government provides sign language interpreters at various health centres so as to encourage our brothers from the deaf community freely attend hospitals.

Persons with Disabilities including mental health should be assisted when seeking for healthcare.

APPENDIXES

Appendix 1: Pictures:



Mohammed Yakubu thankful to CALID after he was supported with reading lens



Using sign language to present achievements of CALID's work to VVF. This sign means "I love you"



Financial Literacy Training for Beneficiaries of Empowerment for Women in Agriculture



Monitoring visit to farms of women beneficiaries of Empowerment for Women in Agriculture



Fertilizer Support to Visual Impaired Farmers to Mr. Abukari



From the left is the Regional President of Ghana Federation (GFD) of Disability, Regional President and Organizer of Ghana Blind Union (GBU) applauding with participants



Mr. Mohammed Awal, the Regional Secretary of GBU making a presentation on access to health of members



Mr. Ibrahim Bapio, the former Regional President of Ghana National Association of Deaf (GNAD) making a presentation on the lack of sign language interpreters at health facilities for members



Another Executives of GNAD emphasising on the need for Sign Language Interpreters at the various health centres



The Country Director of VVF Mr. Osman Mohammed interacting through an Interpreter with the members of the Deaf Community



Engagements with the District Chief Executive and the Education Directorate on abandon Schools in the Central Gonja District



CALID

Physical Location:

Choggu Roundabout to Gurugu on the main Kumbungu Road,
adjacent KOALA /NEDCO/VRA Sagnerigu Sub-Station.
Digital address: BA 56 CHISEL ST NS-072-6001 at Gbolu Kpalsi

Contacts:

P. O. Box 409 Education Ridge
Tamale, Northern Region, Ghana
Tel: +233 372 024 151
Cell: +233 (0) 244 723 357 or 208 043 549
E-mail: calid174@gmail.com
Website Address: www.calidghana.org