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*Printed by Kpododo Prints  
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# 2024

## ANNUAL REPORT

A Year of Empowering  
Communities Through  
Learning to Inspire  
Growth.



**Savand**  
Signatures.



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## WHO WE ARE



Savana Signatures is an Information Communication Technology for Development (ICT4D) organisation. We embed ICT in all related interventions in our programme areas.

We create impact in the regions where we have interventions. We are a registered Non-Profit organisation registered and operating in Ghana.

We are headquartered in Tamale, in the Northern Region with a zonal office in Ho, in the Volta Region of Ghana, complemented by satellite offices strategically positioned in Dambai, Atebubu Amantin, Mion, Yendi and Zabzugu. We currently have footprints across 13 regions of Ghana, including, Northern, Volta, Oti, Upper East, Upper West, Savannah, Central, Greater Accra, North East, Bono East, Bono, Ahafo and the Eastern Regions of Ghana.



### OUR VISION

A society where all people have access to tools that improve their livelihood and quality of life.



### OUR MISSION

To initiate positive change among girls, women, youth, and vulnerable populations in Ghana through innovative digital solutions in education, health, and livelihood development.

## CORE VALUES

At Savana Signatures, our core values are crucial to the impact we seek to make in project communities. These include:



### TEAMWORK

Working together to support each other to achieve our set goals Excellent collaboration and coordination.



### INNOVATIVE

We use new ways and new interventions to implement projects.



### PASSION

Our passion drives everything we do, motivating us and others to put up endless effort in the pursuit of a fair and just society.



### ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability through upholding our principles, being transparent, moral, and accountable in all that we do, as well as making sure we fulfill our commitments, we gain the trust of others and taking responsibility for risks taken..



### LEADERSHIP

We are committed to constantly raising the bar, learning, and improving so we can deliver the very best in everything we do.



### SACRIFICE

Selflessness and Commitment

## OUR SAFEGUARDING OBLIGATION

### Our Commitment to Safeguarding and Protection.



At Savana Signatures, we believe in creating a world where every individual regardless of age, sex, or background feels safe, valued, and protected.

Our dedication to safeguarding is at the core of everything we do, hence ensuring that power, privilege, or trust is never misused to cause harm, discrimination, exploitation, or abuse.

Protecting the well-being of our staff, partners, and the communities we serve has always been a fundamental part of our mission. Our approach to Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (PSEAH) is not just a policy, it is a commitment to dignity, respect, and accountability.

#### ***To achieve this, we:***

- *Create and maintain harassment-free, safe spaces for all individuals, particularly vulnerable groups.*
- *Uphold the highest ethical and professional standards in our programs, ensuring that our employees and stakeholders adhere to safeguarding principles.*
- *Establish clear reporting mechanisms to address any concerns effectively and with urgency.*

Also, building a culture of safeguarding starts with awareness, training, and action. That is why all our staff members are required to complete PSEAH training, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to prevent, identify, and respond to safeguarding risks.

Through these efforts, we are not only protecting our workplace and programs but also fostering trust within the communities we serve. Every person who interacts with Savana Signatures, whether a staff member, partner, or community beneficiary, deserves to feel safe, heard, and respected.

We recognize that safeguarding is an ongoing responsibility. As we continue to expand our impact, we remain vigilant, proactive, and committed to ensuring that our programs uplift, protect, and empower those we serve.





## MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Partners and Friends of Savana Signatures, As we reflect on 2024, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the strides we have made together in advancing social inclusion, education, health, and economic empowerment across our communities.

This year's annual report, titled "A Year of Empowering Communities Through Learning to Inspire Growth," captures how our interventions have transformed lives and strengthened our commitment to leveraging knowledge as a tool for empowerment and development.

Through our projects, we equipped young people with digital and media literacy skills, promoted gender equality and safeguarding initiatives, and enhanced access to quality healthcare through innovative community engagements. Our nutrition education efforts, particularly for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and senior high school students, reinforced the power of learning as a catalyst for change. Activities like cooking demonstrations and quiz competitions not only educated but also inspired healthier lifestyles and greater awareness.

This year also brought well-deserved recognition of our impact, as Savana Signatures received two prestigious awards. These accolades are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our team, partners, and stakeholders.

We were further honored to host key development partners, including the US Embassy in Ghana, USAID, and FHI360, and to attend a breakfast reception and watch party at the invitation of the U.S. Ambassador to Ghana. These moments underscored the global relevance of our work and the strength of our collaborations.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the unwavering support of our partners, donors, and the communities we serve.



Stephen Agbenyo - PhD

As we look ahead, we remain committed to driving innovation, fostering collaboration, and deepening our impact to ensure that no one is left behind in our journey toward sustainable development.

Together, we will continue to Learn, Grow, and Inspire Change.

With gratitude,  
Dr. Stephen Agbenyo,  
Executive Director, Savana Signatures.





# A YEAR OF EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH LEARNING TO INSPIRE GROWTH.

## **Executive Summary**

The year 2024 marked a pivotal chapter for Savana Signatures as we deepened our commitment to driving transformative change in underserved communities. Through innovative ICT solutions, multi-sectoral collaborations, and grassroots-driven interventions, we expanded our impact across 13 regions of Ghana and beyond, reaching over 3.4 million individuals. Our work spanned critical areas such as health, education, gender equality, governance, peace, livelihood, and empowerment, leaving a lasting imprint on the communities we serve.

This year's achievements were made possible through the unwavering support of our partners, including the Ghana Health Service, Ghana Education Service, Social Welfare, National Youth Authority, Ghana Disability Federation, USAID, UNESCO, the US Embassy in Ghana, the World Food Programme (WFP), STAR-Ghana Foundation, Tony Chocolonely, and the World Bank. Together, we implemented projects that empowered communities, enhanced social inclusion, and ensured peace during Ghana's 2024 general elections.

## **Health: Transforming Lives Through Innovation**

In the health sector, our Accelerating Social and Behavior Change (ASBC) and Nutrition in Retail project continued to create a sustainable impact. Leveraging ICT-driven health education and innovative approaches like the Community Engagement for Health and Well-being (CE4HW) initiative and Goodlife Health Fairs, we reached hundreds of thousands of individuals. These efforts not only improved health outcomes but also fostered community ownership of health and well-being.

## **Education: Bridging Gaps, Empowering Futures**

Under our education thematic area, the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) and Rural Youth in Ghana Catching Up on Education initiatives addressed critical disparities faced by rural youth, particularly girls. Through teacher training, community engagement, and school retention strategies, we delivered reproductive health education to thousands of adolescents while ensuring they stayed in school and thrived academically.

## **Governance and Social Inclusion: Amplifying Voices**

Our commitment to governance, gender equality, and social inclusion was exemplified by the Your

Voice Matter 4 project, which empowered marginalized groups in eight districts of the Oti Region to actively participate in democratic processes. By auditing polling stations and disseminating election-related information to 3,000 individuals, we enhanced political inclusion and accessibility. Similarly, the Media Literacy and Youth Empowerment for Peaceful Elections project equipped youth influencers with tools to counter misinformation, fostering a peaceful and informed electoral process in the Northern sector.

### **Livelihood and Nutrition: Building Resilience**

In addressing food security and nutrition, the Nutrition in Retail project and Farmer Support Activity brought life-changing interventions to thousands. From promoting the consumption of locally available, nutritious, and fortified foods to training farmers in sustainable practices, these initiatives tackled malnutrition and built resilience in vulnerable communities.

### **Inclusive Health Access: A Lifeline for Youth**

Our dedication to inclusive health access was further demonstrated by the SHE+ Helpline, which provided over 2,000 young people, especially girls, with critical information and counseling on sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence. This service became a vital lifeline, empowering youth to make informed decisions about their health and futures.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we reflect on 2024, we celebrate the progress made while acknowledging the challenges that remain. Each intervention, partnership, and community effort reinforce our vision of a Ghana where individuals and communities thrive in dignity and equality. With the continued support of our donors, partners, and the communities we serve, we are poised to build on these achievements and advance our mission in 2025 and beyond.

## SAVANA SIGNATURES' 2024 KEY HIGHLIGHTS

### Savana Signatures Hosts First Cohort of Ghana-Netherlands Education Exchange Programme



On February 15, Kalpohin Senior High School (KALISCO) in Tamale welcomed the first cohort of students and teachers from the Amsterdam Liberal Arts & Sciences Academie (ALASCA) as part of our educational exchange programme. Spearheaded by Savana Signatures, this initiative

fosters sustainable partnerships between Ghanaian and Dutch educational institutions, promoting knowledge sharing and enriching cultural experiences.

### 2024 Health Fairs in Sagnarigu and Mamprugu Moagduri



Savana Signatures organized a series of health fairs in Sagnarigu and Mamprugu Moagduri, delivering essential healthcare services, education, and screenings to improve community well-being. These fairs underscored our commitment to accessible and inclusive healthcare.

### ASBC Blood Donation Drive



Through the Accelerating Social and Behavior Change (ASBC) initiative, Savana Signatures successfully organized a blood donation drive in partnership with the Ghana Health Service (GES), Ghana Education Service (GES), and Promasidor Ghana. This initiative rallied community support to save lives and strengthen local healthcare systems.



## Double Recognition: Savana Signatures Wins Two Awards



In 2024, Savana Signatures' dedication to impactful initiatives was celebrated with two prestigious awards: Organization of the Year 2024 at the Northern Ghana Business Merit Awards and Most Innovative Leadership in Social Change at the Ghana Philanthropy Awards 2024. These accolades reflect our unwavering commitment to community development and digital empowerment.

## USAID/FHI360 Visit to ASBC-Implementing CHPS Districts



A delegation from USAID and FHI360 visited Savana Signatures' ASBC-implementing CHPS communities, including Mashegu and Fou, to observe the progress made in improving healthcare through behavioral and social change interventions. Their visit highlighted the transformative impact of our work.

## Media Literacy Training for Youth Influencers



In response to the growing need for responsible digital engagement, Savana Signatures trained youth influencers in media literacy. These sessions equipped participants with critical thinking skills to counter misinformation and promote positive narratives, fostering a more informed and engaged society.

### GES Invites Savana Signatures to Train Its Officers



The success of our Rural Youth in Ghana Catching Up on Education project in the Eastern Region, particularly in Suhum and Ayensuano, led to an invitation from the Suhum District Directorate of the Ghana Education Service (GES). Savana Signatures conducted training sessions for teachers and GES officers who were not part of the initial project, equipping them with the tools to replicate its impact. Due to the project's success, other districts in the Eastern Region have also requested similar training for their teachers and education officers.

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### Strengthening Partnerships: Breakfast Reception with the US Ambassador to Ghana



In November 2024, our Executive Director, Dr. Stephen Agbenyo, was honored to join key stakeholders at a special Breakfast Reception and Watch Party hosted by the US Ambassador to Ghana, H.E. Virginia Evelyn Palmer, to witness the 2024 US Presidential Elections. This event provided a valuable platform for engagement, learning, and strengthening partnerships.

### Inclusive Nutrition: Cooking Demonstrations for PWDs in Sagnarigu



As part of the WFP Nutrition in Retail Project, Savana Signatures organized cooking demonstrations tailored for Persons with disabilities (PWDs) in the Sagnarigu Municipality. These sessions promoted the use of locally available, nutritious, and fortified meals, encouraging healthy living among PWDs and fostering inclusivity in nutrition education.

## 2024 Nutrition Challenge for SHSs



Public Senior High Schools in the Sagnarigu and Karaga Districts participated in an exciting Nutrition Challenge, a quiz competition designed to promote locally available nutritious and fortified foods. The event inspired students to adopt healthy eating habits and highlighted the importance of nutrition education. Attendees included the Northern Regional Nutrition Officer,

Madam Patricia S. Amadu; Executive Chef Faila of the Guinness World Record Cookathon; representatives from the World Food Programme (WFP); and the GES.





## MEASURING OUR IMPACT

In 2024, through hard work and dedication, Savana Signatures achieved remarkable milestones with both new and existing projects across 13 regions of Ghana. Driven by our mission to impact the lives of every Ghanaian, we leveraged technology and scalable tools to deliver transformative services in our core thematic areas: Good Health, Education, and Livelihood & Empowerment.



*People directly reached with our programme*

**3,435,142**



**Health**

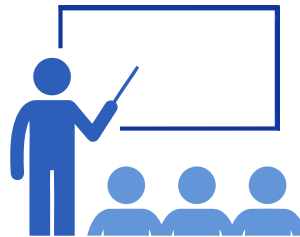
**3,383,924**

*People benefited from our health programmes in 2024*

**1,275**

*People benefited from our Education programmes in 2024*

**Education**



**Livelihood & Economic Empowerment**



**21,176**

*People benefited from our Livelihood and Economic Empowerment programmes in 2024*

**28,671**

*People benefited from our Gender Equality and Social Inclusion programmes in 2024*

**Special Initiative and Focus on election 2024**



# Accelerating Social and Behaviour Change Activity

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE:  
...ING DISTRICTS IN ZOI

# HEALTH

<b>2</b> ZERO HUNGER 	<b>3</b> GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 	<b>5</b> GENDER EQUALITY 	<b>6</b> CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION 	<b>13</b> CLIMATE ACTION 	<b>16</b> PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 
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## HEALTH



### *Health: A Cornerstone of Our Work*

As we believe in the old adage that health is wealth, and in 2024, health interventions remained at the heart of our efforts, accounting for 98.5% of our activities and positively impacting over 3.3 million individuals. Our work targeted diverse groups, including community members, health professionals, women (particularly pregnant women and new mothers), children under five, and adolescents. We addressed critical health issues such as:

- *Family planning and reproductive health*
- *Malaria prevention*
- *Menstrual hygiene management*
- *Maternal and child health*
- *Nutrition and adolescent well-being*
- *Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)*

- *Prevention of infectious diseases*

In Northern Ghana, we collaborated closely with the Ghana Health Service to train healthcare professionals on effective community engagement strategies. These efforts ensured that vital health information reached pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, adolescents, and entire communities.

In the Volta Region, we prioritized adolescent girls' and boys' reproductive health. Through weekly educational sessions and the establishment of a Sanitary Pad Bank, we equipped young girls with lifesaving knowledge and provided free sanitary pads, enabling them to manage their menstrual health with dignity and confidence.

## ACCELERATING SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOR CHANGE (ASBC) ACTIVITY



Since 2021, Savana Signatures has been at the forefront of the USAID-funded Accelerating Social and Behavior Change (ASBC) Initiative, targeting key groups such as pregnant women and their partners, caregivers, opinion leaders, adolescents/young adults, persons with disabilities, and the elderly. Our work spans the Sagnarigu Municipal in the Northern Region, Mamprugu Moagduri in the North East Region, and seven districts in the Savannah Region.

***The project focuses on eight critical health areas:***

- *Malaria*
- *Adolescent Reproductive Health*
- *Nutrition*
- *Family Planning*
- *Public Health Emergencies*
- *Maternal and Newborn Child Health*
- *Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)*
- *Child Marriage*

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of project implementation, Savana Signatures implemented ICT-driven strategies to strengthen the capacity of the Health Promotion Division (HPD) of the Ghana Health Service (GHS) at all levels. We leveraged digital platforms to enhance health communication and fostered deeper community engagement. The phased rollout of the Community Engagement for Health and Well-being (CE4HW) approach has reached 130 communities across the target regions.

In 2024, the CE4HW strategy expanded to the Savannah Region, covering 82 CHPS zones. Additionally, Savana Signatures launched the Goodlife Health Fair, which reached over 33,000 individuals through health education, screenings, and the distribution of essential health commodities.

**Impact at a Glance:**

**18,800** *individuals reached through CE4HW strategies*

**259,777** *individuals engaged via the Cinema Van initiative*

**688,905** *individuals reached through AgoSHE+ promotions*

The project has successfully fostered collaboration between Community Health Management

Committees (CHMCs) and Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs), leading to increased skilled deliveries and a significant reduction in home births across the project districts.

We implemented Water Access, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) initiatives in several communities. Innovative tools like the Kpododo Mobile Messaging Platform have improved maternal, newborn, and child health outcomes by sending reminders for antenatal care appointments and delivering targeted health messaging.

The Goodlife Health Fair has not only strengthened relationships between communities and healthcare providers but also empowered individuals to seek relevant health information. This has resulted in improved health outcomes and a more informed, healthier population.





## NUTRITION IN RETAIL PROJECT



In 2024, Savana Signatures reaffirmed its commitment to improving nutrition and health in Ghana through the continuation of the Nutrition in Retail Project, funded by the World Food Programme. This initiative targeted vulnerable groups, including pregnant and breastfeeding women, children under five, and adolescent girls, addressing the root causes of stunted growth such as limited access to nutritious food, inadequate care practices, and unhealthy environments.

To combat malnutrition, the project implemented SBC strategies aimed at promoting the purchase

and consumption of nutritious foods, including those with the Obaasima seal, in the Sagnarigu Municipality and Karaga District of the Northern Region. Key interventions included:

- *Capacity Building: Training health workers and SHEP teachers on 4-star diets, food fortification, and agronomic practices to effectively engage with pregnant and breastfeeding women, caregivers, and adolescents.*
- *Kpododo Mobile Platform: Disseminating audio-recorded nutrition messages in the local*



language (Dagbani) to 2,000 pregnant and breastfeeding mothers via their mobile phones.

- *SBC Materials: Producing video animations, dramas, jingles, documentaries, signposts, and posters to emphasize the importance of consuming locally available, nutritious, and fortified foods.*
- *Mass Media Campaigns: Broadcasting nutrition-related content on radio, television, Facebook, and SavSign Online TV to raise awareness about healthy diets, breastfeeding, complementary feeding, and food safety.*

***The Nutrition in Retail Project has achieved significant outreach and impact:***

- *Training: 100 SHEP teachers trained to conduct nutrition sessions with adolescents, and 20 health workers equipped to disseminate nutritional content in schools and communities.*
- *Community Engagement: 2,946 women and 338 men engaged at Antenatal Care (ANC) and Child Welfare Center (CWC) units on the nutritional value of locally available and fortified foods.*
- *Cooking Demonstrations: 20 sessions organized for pregnant and breastfeeding*

women and adolescents, focusing on proper food preparation and safety.

- *School Vegetable Gardens: Establishment of three gardens to teach agronomic practices and promote healthy diets among adolescents.*
- *Awareness Campaigns: 20 signposts mounted in selected schools and health centers, alongside radio and TV engagements reaching 69,857 and 5,236 individuals, respectively.*

### **VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY**

*Participants shared how the project has transformed their understanding and practices:*

- *Hawa Iddrisu a resident of Nagbani, in the Karaga District of the Northern region highlighted the nutritional value of soybeans and her intention to incorporate them into meals.*
- *Abubakari Seidu a 32 year old maize farmer at Tintaraga also in the Karaga district appreciated the cooking skills gained and called for more community demonstrations to promote locally available nutritious foods.*
- *Naayim Inusah, Progressive Men's group leader at Gumani in the Sagnarigu Municipality emphasized the importance of male involvement in nutrition discussions, recognizing their role in supporting family nutrition.*

The increased availability of fortified foods with the Obaasima seal in local retail outlets is

expected to further boost the consumption of nutritious options within the community. Through these efforts, the Nutrition in Retail Project has made significant strides in improving nutritional awareness and practices among vulnerable populations in the Northern Region of Ghana.





## YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROJECT



Adolescent pregnancies, child marriage, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDS, and gender-based violence (GBV) remain pressing issues in Ghana, disproportionately affecting women and adolescent girls. Alarming, only 36% of young women and 37% of young men aged 15–24 know effective HIV prevention methods.

Against this backdrop, our Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) in 2024 focused on protecting young people from STIs, including HIV/AIDS, early pregnancies, and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

### **Key Interventions and Achievements**

- *Community Engagement: We worked with community leaders and members to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS, reproductive*

*health and rights, and violence against women and girls. The leadership of School Management Committees in project districts was oriented on the Ghana Education Service (GES) Safe School Program.*

- *Reproductive Health Education: Reached 41,364 learners in the South and Central Tongu Districts and Keta Municipal of the Volta Region with reproductive health education from January to June 2024.*
- *Capacity Building: Conducted district-level training for 86 teachers and community volunteers across three districts, followed by cascading training for teachers and head teachers in the South and Central Tongu Districts.*



- *Edutainment: Used the **YOLO** Drama Series as an edutainment tool to increase adolescents' access to reproductive health and GBV information among Senior High School students.*
- *Community Sensitization: Organized sessions in 9 communities to promote HIV/AIDS awareness and testing, engaging community leaders, religious and traditional authorities, women, men, adolescent girls, and boys.*
- *Advocacy Training: Trained 12 adolescent girls on advocacy and policy environments to improve access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) information and services.*

### ***Celebrating Women and Girls: Key Events in 2024***

- *In 2024, Savana Signatures organized impactful events to promote women's health, rights, and empowerment across Ghana:*
- *International Women's Day (March 8): Hosted a forum in the Sagnarigu District under the*

*theme “Count Her In: Accelerating Gender Equality Through Economic Empowerment,” reaching 150 participants, including 71 women and 11 adolescents.*

- *Menstrual Hygiene Day (May 28): Collaborated with UNESCO and Mundo Cooperante to engage **3,400** adolescent girls in 10 junior high schools across four districts in the Northern and Volta Regions. The initiative provided menstrual hygiene education, distributed free sanitary pads, and launched a radio sensitization campaign advocating for the removal of taxes on sanitary products.*
- *World Breastfeeding Week (August 1–7): Conducted a street campaign reaching 840 individuals, including women, men, and adolescents, to promote exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices.*
- *International Day of the Girl Child (October 11): Engaged 4,300 adolescent girls across 30 schools in the Northern and Volta Regions, facilitating discussions on reproductive health, gender equality, and sustainable development, complemented by a social media campaign.*
- *World Children's Day (November 19): Led a social media campaign to promote children's rights, reaching a broad audience.*



In total, our interventions in 2024 reached 8,622 individuals, primarily women, adolescents, and men, contributing to greater awareness, empowerment, and improved health outcomes.



## SHE+ HELPLINE: EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH ACCESSIBLE SRHR SERVICES



From January 2023 to November 2024, the SHE+ Helpline, fully funded by Savana Signatures with support from various partners, provided critical support to young people and adolescents across Ghana and neighboring countries. This initiative addresses pressing issues such as teenage pregnancy, unsafe abortion, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and HIV/AIDS, which disproportionately affect young people, particularly rural adolescent girls and those from poorer, less educated backgrounds.

### Addressing Barriers to Access

Young people often face significant barriers to accessing sexual and reproductive health services, including socio-cultural and technological

challenges, high costs, and concerns about privacy and confidentiality. The SHE+ Helpline serves as an innovative, inclusive platform that overcomes these barriers, offering accessible services to all, including persons with disabilities.

### *The project implements several strategies to achieve its objectives:*

- *Capacity Building: Training health staff and personnel from social justice institutions to enhance youth-friendly service provision.*
- *SRHR Education: Delivering vital information on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) to young people in schools and vocational training programs. Topics include*





*child marriage, rape, defilement, domestic violence, menstrual hygiene management, STI and HIV prevention, teenage pregnancy prevention, and contraceptive usage.*

- *Counselling Services: Providing psychological support to young people who have experienced SGBV, facilitating their safe recovery.*
- *Referral Services: Connecting survivors of SGBV and those with reproductive health issues to medical and legal support through partnerships with health centers and social service institutions.*

### ***Impact in 2024***

- In 2024, the SHE+ Helpline reached 2,035 young people (959 males and 1,076 females), offering services such as information, counselling, and referrals. ***Key service areas included:***
  - *Adolescent sexual and reproductive health: 376 individuals*
  - *Menstrual hygiene: 210 individuals*

- *Maternal and child health (MCH): 179 individuals*
- *Family planning: 187 individuals*
- *Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH): 103 individuals*
- *Gender-based violence services: 46 individuals*

The helpline operated in multiple languages, with the most preferred being Dagbani (876 users), English (641), and Twi (371). Additional services were offered in Ewe, Frafra, Hausa, Sissala, Ga, and Gonja. Geographically, the highest engagement was in the Northern Region (740 users), followed by Ashanti (189), Savannah (168), Northeast (141), and Greater Accra (131).

### ***Key Lessons and Successes***

The SHE+ Helpline has demonstrated that ensuring privacy and confidentiality encourages young people to access SRHR and SGBV services. Additionally, training health service providers in youth-friendly service delivery has proven effective in making these essential services more accessible.

The SHE+ Helpline has made significant strides in improving access to critical health information and support for young people across Ghana. The platform addressed critical barriers for especially young people, by tailored and youth-friendly services and empowered them to make informed decisions about their health and well-being



## SHE+ HELPLINE THEMATIC AREAS SERVICE DELIVERY IN NUMBERS



# 142

People accessed services on **Adolescent Reproductive Health.**



# 111

People sought information on **Entrepreneurship & Financial Assistance.**



# 16

Emerging Infectious **Diseases**



# 97

**Family Planning**



# 184

Services were provided on **Contraceptives.**



# 55

People accessed services on **Gender-Based Violence.**



# 33

People received services on **Drug & Substance Abuse.**



# 166

of services provided focused on **HIV/AIDS and STIs.**



# 92

**Education**



**33**  
Malaria



**119**  
Sexual Health/Sex  
Education



**225**  
Maternal Health/  
Child Care



**3**  
Child Marriage



**225**  
People accessed  
**Menstruation** and  
**Menstrual Hygiene**  
services.



**552**  
People called the  
Helpline to make  
**Special Enquiries**



**146**  
Services were offered  
on **Nutrition**.



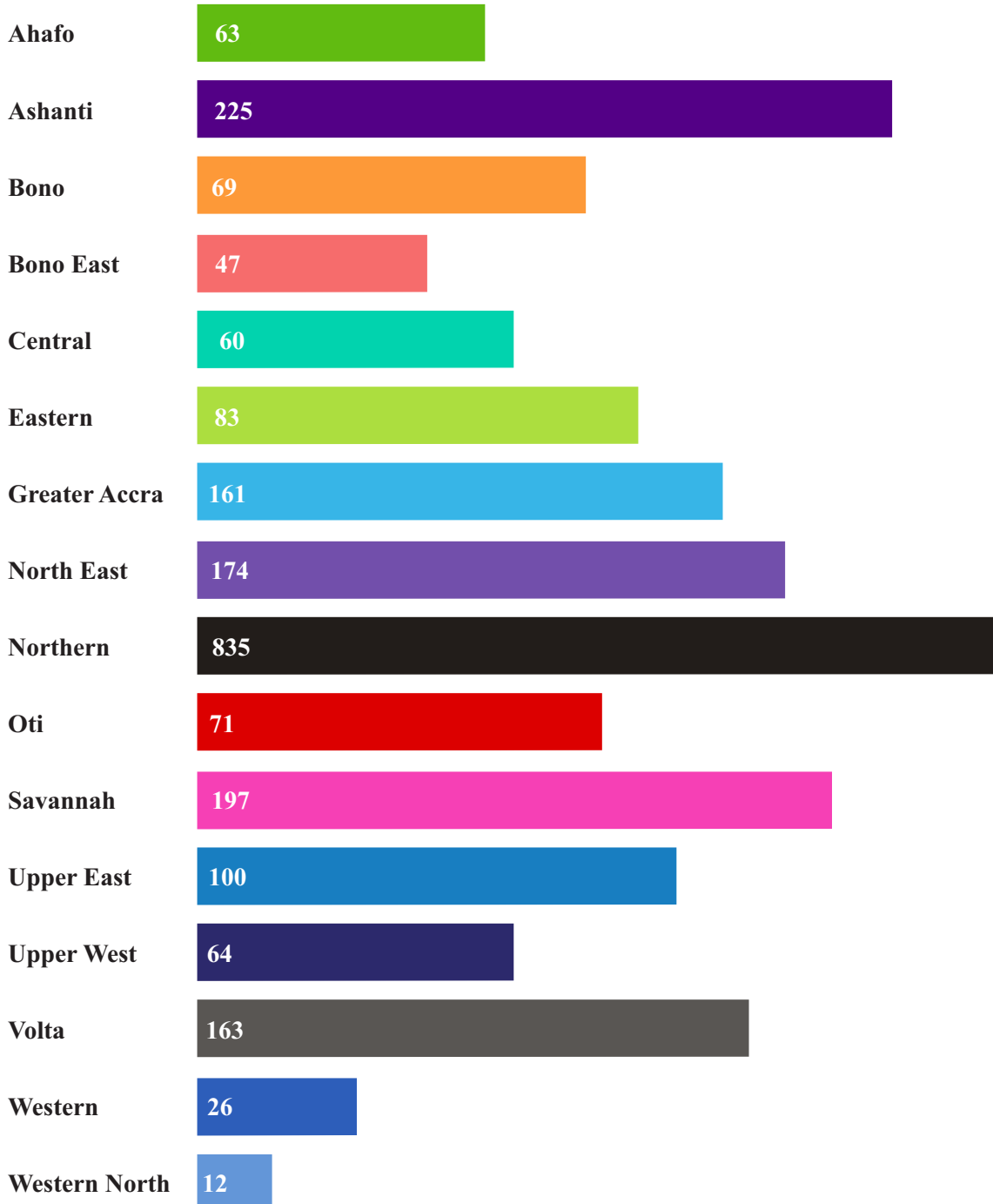
**60**  
WASH (Water, Sanitation,  
and Hygiene)



**61**  
Personal Hygiene



## SHE+ HELPLINE REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF CALLERS IN 2024



# EDUCATION



## EDUCATION: BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR PROGRESS



At Savana Signatures, we believe that education is the cornerstone of progress. In 2024, we made significant strides in improving learning outcomes, particularly in cocoa-growing communities in the Eastern Region of Ghana. Guided by a comprehensive baseline survey, we identified critical gaps in the education sector and implemented targeted interventions to address them.

***Our initiatives included capacity-building training for:***

- *Teachers and school managers*

- *Training officers of the Ghana Education Service (GES)*
- *School Improvement Support Officers (SISOs)*

These programs focused on enhancing teaching methodologies and integrating social and emotional learning, creating a more holistic and effective educational environment.

***Empowering Girls Through Reproductive Health Education (RHE)***

We placed a strong emphasis on girls' education by introducing Reproductive Health Education (RHE), which addressed essential topics such as:



- *Menstrual hygiene and self-care*
- *Sexual health and responsible decision-making*
- *Gender equality and reproductive rights*

Our education projects equipped students, especially young girls, with accurate, age-appropriate and practical reproductive health knowledge, to enable them make informed choices, build their agency and reduce their vulnerability to health risks.

### *The Ripple Effect of Education*

We recognize that when children, particularly girls, receive quality education and reproductive health awareness, they are better equipped to break cycles of poverty, achieve their goals, and contribute to thriving communities. This holistic approach not only transforms individual lives but also fosters sustainable development for entire communities.



## RURAL YOUTH IN GHANA CATCHING UP ON EDUCATION



Funded by Tony's Chocolonely and through a partnership with Edukans, the Rural Youth in Ghana Catching Up on Education project is being implemented from April 2023 to May 2025 in the Eastern Region, specifically targeting the Ayensuano and Suhum Municipality districts. This initiative addresses the educational challenges faced by learners, particularly children of cocoa farmers, who struggle with low proficiency in reading and mathematics. Young girls are disproportionately affected, often dropping out of school due to early pregnancies and child marriages, perpetuating cycles of poverty and disadvantage.

### *A Multi-Faceted Approach to Education*

### ***The project is being executed across 15 schools through a comprehensive strategy that includes:***

Building the capacity of Ghana Education Service (GES) officials, headteachers, and teachers to effectively implement the Standard-Based Curriculum (SBC) and improve educational outcomes.

- *Providing Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and Reproductive Health Education (RHE) to learners.*
- *Engaging parents to support their children's education.*
- *Mobilizing communities to promote child protection and the re-enrollment of school dropouts.*

***The project has achieved significant milestones:***

- *Suhum Municipality: 11 headteachers and 133 teachers trained, with refresher training for 20 GES officials, 11 headteachers, and 33 teachers.*
- *Ayensuano District: 4 headteachers and 32 teachers trained, with refresher training for 4 headteachers and 12 teachers.*
- *Parental Engagement: 150 parents participated in sessions focused on SEL and RHE while general community engagement activities reached a total of 996 parents, traditional and religious leaders.*
- *Specialized Training: 35 teachers received training in SEL and RHE.*

***Recognition and Expansion***

The success of the project has led to the Suhum District Directorate of the Ghana Education Service inviting Savana Signatures to extend the training to teachers and GES officers who were not initially part of the project. Other districts in the Eastern Region have also requested similar training, reflecting the project's transformative impact on education in Suhum and Ayensuano.

To date, the project has directly engaged 261 individuals through training and community activities, contributing to improved educational outcomes and supporting the retention and transition of adolescent girls within the educational system. This initiative underscores the power of quality education as a transformative tool for change in rural Ghana, breaking cycles of poverty and empowering communities to thrive.





## IMPROVING QUALITY EDUCATION IN HASSANIYA ISLAMIC BASIC SCHOOL.



With our headquarters located in close proximity to Gumani School, we felt a deep sense of responsibility to support the school and its community. Our objective was to create a safe, inclusive, and supportive learning environment while empowering learners, teachers, and the community to thrive academically and socially.

Strategic Interventions for Holistic Development

***The project was executed through a series of targeted interventions designed to address educational challenges and promote holistic development:***

- *Stakeholder Engagement: We began by engaging stakeholders to ensure alignment, collaboration, and support for the project's objectives.*
- *Comprehensive Assessment: A thorough assessment of the five pillars of education, Environments, Teachers, Learners, School Managers, and Community, was conducted. This informed the development of a School Performance Improvement Plan (SPIP), which served as a roadmap for interventions.*
- *School Garden Initiative: Engaged the school community in developing a school garden,*

*which served as a practical learning resource and encouraged students to appreciate their parents' trades and skills.*

Through these interventions, we created a more inclusive and supportive learning environment, empowering learners and teachers alike. The project not only improved educational outcomes but also strengthened the bond between the school and the community, ensuring sustained efforts to protect and promote education.



# LIVELIHOOD AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT.





## LIVELIHOOD AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT: TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS



Our livelihood and economic empowerment programs in 2024 delivered deep and transformative impact, focusing on enhancing the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and fostering inclusive economic growth across multiple districts in Ghana.

As an ICT4D organization, Savana Signatures played a pivotal role in supporting WFP's Farmer Support Activity. We provided Interactive Voice Response, (IVR) through our Kpododo mobile messaging platform. These initiatives empowered farmers to make informed financial decisions, invest in their farms, and improve productivity, ultimately boosting their economic resilience and sustainability.

Under the Transport Sector Improvement Project (TSIP), we implemented a Grievance and Complaints Logging System (GCLS) that played a crucial role in promoting livelihood and economic empowerment. We empowered local stakeholders to actively track, report, and address concerns affecting their well-being.

The integration of both online and offline grievance mechanisms enhanced trust, improved project outcomes, and safeguarded vulnerable groups. This approach not only ensured accountability and transparency but also fostered inclusive economic growth and social resilience in project communities.

Through these initiatives, Savana Signatures has demonstrated its commitment to empowering individuals and communities, driving sustainable development, and creating pathways for economic independence and growth.

### **The Farmer Support Activity: Empowering Smallholder Farmers**

In 2024, Savana Signatures played a pivotal role in supporting WFP's Farmer Support Activity. We provided interactive voice response, IVR. Through our Kpododo mobile messaging platform.

To ensure clarity and adoption, we produced 44 unique audio messages in 17 local Ghanaian languages. These messages disseminated critical information on best agricultural practices and coping strategies during emergencies, such as floods, to farmers and flood-affected communities.

We targeted communities across 17 districts in Ghana, including Sagnarigu, Mion, Yendi, Karaga, Gushiegu, Nanton, East Mamprusi, Mamprugu-Moagduri, Tempene, Garu, Bawku West, Bawku Municipal, Nadowli-Kaleo, Wa East, Daffiema-Bussie, Sissala East, and Sissala West.

Through our Kpododo mobile messaging platform, a total of 126,595 farmers and flood victims, providing them with clear, actionable information in their preferred languages. This approach not only enhanced understanding but also encouraged the adoption of improved practices in their daily activities, contributing to greater resilience and food security.



## GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM FOR TRANSPORT SECTOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (TSIP)



The Transport Sector Improvement Project (TSIP), funded by the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank and implemented by the Government of Ghana's Ministry of Roads and Highways under the Output and Performance-Based Road Contract (OPBRC) framework, aims to enhance transport sector management, including road asset management. Since 2020, Savana Signatures has been engaged to manage the project's Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), ensuring transparency, accountability, and the resolution of project-related complaints through both online and offline channels. Temporal complaint counters were established in Atebubu Amantin

(Bono East), Yendi, Zabzugu, and Mion (Northern Region) and have all together collected and processed 223 project-related complaints filed in person, via the project Online GCLS and phone lines. ***Achievements during the period include:***

- *Conducted awareness campaigns in project-affected communities to educate the public about the grievance mechanism and project objectives.*
- *Developed and implemented a Gender-Based Violence (GBV)/Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) Response Framework to safeguard vulnerable groups.*



- *Increased transparency and accountability in project delivery through the efficient resolution of grievances.*
- *Enhanced community trust and collaboration by institutionalizing grievance handling processes.*
- *Improved livelihoods of project affected persons in the Northern and Bono East regions*



# SPECIAL INITIATIVES AND FOCUS ON ELECTION 2024





In 2024, as Ghana prepared for its general elections on December 7, Savana Signatures ventured into a critical thematic area: fostering inclusive governance and combating misinformation. Recognizing the historical neglect and marginalization of Persons With Disabilities, women, and other vulnerable groups in Ghana's political landscape, particularly in the Oti Region, we launched two transformative initiatives to promote equity, inclusion, and peaceful elections.

Together, these initiatives underscored our commitment to inclusive governance, equitable participation, and peaceful democratic processes. Through the projects, Savana Signatures empowered marginalized groups and equipped Ghanaian youth with media literacy, while laying the foundation for a more inclusive, informed and resilient society.



## MEDIA LITERACY AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT FOR PEACEFUL ELECTION



As an organization committed to peace, security, and accountability in governance, Savana Signatures launched the Media Literacy and Youth Empowerment for Peaceful Elections project in 2024. This initiative was rooted in the urgent need to combat the pervasive spread of misinformation and disinformation in Ghana, particularly as the country approached its December 7, 2024, general elections.

The deliberate manipulation of information by individuals and political parties poses significant threats to electoral integrity, social cohesion, and national security. The rise of social media and artificial intelligence has further exacerbated these challenges, with deepfake videos and disinformation campaigns undermining democracy and inciting election-related violence.

### *Targeting Key Demographics*

The project focused on youth influencers aged 18–35, both online and offline, from community

youth groups in Northern Ghana, including the Northern Region, North East Region, Upper East Region, and Savannah Region. These regions, characterized by socio-economic inequalities, low literacy rates, and limited infrastructure, are particularly vulnerable to misinformation. The project built resilience among youth influencers, promoting an inclusive environment devoid of mis/disinformation.

### *Project Objectives and Implementation*

The project was implemented through a strategic approach centered on capacity building, targeted training, and community engagement. **Key objectives included:**

- *Training 200 youth influencers to identify, analyze, and debunk false narratives.*
- *Fostering awareness of the principles of violence-free elections.*
- *Empowering influencers to lead peace campaigns and strengthen social cohesion within their communities.*

### *Notable Achievements*

- *Developed a manual on countering misinformation in partnership with the School of Media Studies, providing participants with practical strategies to combat misinformation effectively.*
- *Transformed youth influencers into proactive agents of change, equipping them to promote peace and responsible information sharing both online and offline.*



## YOUR VOICE 4 MATTER PROJECT: FOSTERING INCLUSIVE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION IN THE OTI REGION



With support from the STAR-Ghana Foundation and funding from the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, Savana Signatures implemented the “Your Voice 4 Matter” project in the Oti Region, empowering marginalized groups to participate meaningfully in the 2024 electoral process. This initiative ensured that the voices of women, youth, and Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) were heard and their needs addressed in governance and development.

Launched in the last quarter of 2024, the project aimed to foster inclusive political participation in 8 districts of the Oti Region: Biakoye,

Jasikan, Kadjebi, Krachi East, Krachi Nchumuru, Krachi West, Nkwanta South, and Nkwanta North. The project created a more inclusive democratic space by enhancing marginalized groups' access to electoral processes and empowering communities to demand accountability,

### ***Key Achievements***

- *Enhanced Political Participation of women, PWDs, and other marginalized groups.*
- *Improved accessibility to electoral processes for marginalized groups, ensuring their active involvement.*



- *Improved Accessibility to Polling Stations during the 2024 general elections*
- *Collaborated with electoral management bodies, local government, and advocacy groups like the Ghana Federation of Disability Organizations to foster inclusivity.*

***Also, the project achieved the following results:***

- *Provided election-related information to 3,000 marginalized individuals, including women, youth, and PWDs, ensuring informed participation in December 7 2024 general elections*
- *Conducted audits of 420 polling stations, leading to significant improvements in accessibility for PWDs.*
- *Supported 8 districts in the Oti region to establish 8 Social Accountability Tracking Movements across all eight districts to monitor and evaluate local governance activities.*
- *Trained 2,560 marginalized individuals in social accountability practices to hold leadership accountable.*
- *Developed a digital tracking system to facilitate real-time monitoring of election-related promises made by political parties*
- *Trained 16 focal persons to lead advocacy and social accountability initiatives within their respective districts.*

The Your Voice 4 Matter project has made transformative strides in promoting inclusive political participation in the Oti Region.



## CLIMATE CHANGE: THE SCHOOL GARDENS



The effects of climate change in the Northern Region of Ghana over the years especially the past five years is disastrous and affecting livelihoods as agriculture remains the main occupation of the people. Climate change effects such as erratic rainfall patterns thus, an unpredictable rainfall has led to prolonged droughts and sudden floods, affecting agriculture and water availability here in northern Ghana. This culminated in the dry spell experienced across the Northern belt in 2024.

Increased temperatures where rising temperatures have reduced soil moisture especially around

the river Oti and the river Dakar, is making it harder to grow crops, leading to desertification, food insecurity, water scarcity and its resultant health effects such as the outbreak of the Cerebro Spinal Meningitis (CSM) experienced in the first quarter of 2025 in the Upper West Region.

To address the effects of these challenges in our operational areas, Savana Signatures, in collaboration with the Ghana Education Service (GES), has launched the School Gardening Initiative in selected schools within the Karaga and Sagnarigu districts. As part of this initiative,



teachers were capacitated on agro-metrics and best agronomical practices to establish school gardens. These gardens cultivated and produced a variety of crops, both edible and non-edible plants. Examples of crops planted include vegetables like tomatoes, okra and ayoyo, trees, and other ornamental plants.

Currently, these initiatives have not only contributed to combating climate change but also to create green and conducive environments for

practical sessions that enhance students' understanding of climate change. The initiative provides students a platform to develop a high interest in addressing the effects of climate change on their education and health and also beautifying the school environment and creating a serene environment conducive for teaching and learning. Overall, these initiatives within our schools are expected to improve the overall learning environment and the wellbeing of learners in our schools.





## A YEAR OF PROGRESS AND PROMISE



As we reflect on 2024, we celebrate the remarkable progress we've made while acknowledging the challenges that remain. Our commitment to health, education, economic empowerment, gender equality, and social inclusion has never been stronger.

Through collaboration, innovation, and unwavering dedication, we have empowered communities, transformed lives, and laid the foundation for sustainable growth. Together, we are Empowering Communities Through Learning to Inspire Growth.

As we look ahead, we remain steadfast in our mission to create a Ghana where every individual and community can thrive in dignity and equality. Thank you for being part of this journey.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Savana Signatures extends its heartfelt gratitude to the individuals, organizations, and partners who made 2024 a remarkable year of impact and transformation. The achievements highlighted in this report would not have been possible without the unwavering support, collaboration, and dedication of our stakeholders.

### Donors and Funding Partners

We are profoundly grateful to our donors, whose generosity and commitment have been the backbone of our success. Their contributions have enabled us to implement impactful projects, reach underserved communities, and transform countless lives. *Special thanks go to:*



**USAID/FHI360:** For funding critical health and development initiatives that have improved maternal and child health, nutrition, and family planning services across our implementing communities.



**UNESCO:** For supporting educational programs and promoting gender equality through innovative projects like the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP).



**US Embassy in Ghana:** For aiding efforts to combat misinformation and disinformation and creating peace ambassadors among Ghanaian youth influencers ahead of the 2024 elections.



**World Food Programme (WFP)/DSM:** For empowering communities through food security and nutrition interventions, such as the Nutrition in Retail Project and Farmer Support Activity.



**STAR-Ghana Foundation/ Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO):** For championing inclusive governance and accountability through initiatives like the Your Voice 4 Matter project.



**Tony's Chocolonely/EDUKANS:** For funding the Rural Youth in Ghana Catching Up on Education project, addressing educational challenges faced by rural youth, particularly children of cocoa farmers.



**International Development Association (IDA), World Bank and the Ministry of Roads and Highways:** For partnering on the Grievance Redress Mechanism for the Transport Sector Improvement Project (TSIP), ensuring transparency and accountability in the transport sector.



Your investments in our mission have been pivotal in driving change and empowering communities. Together, we are building a brighter, more inclusive future for all.

## Collaborators and Stakeholders

We deeply appreciate the collaboration of local and international stakeholders who have provided technical expertise, resources, and guidance. Your contributions have strengthened the implementation and sustainability of our projects. ***Our sincere thanks to:***

- **Government of Ghana:** For facilitating project implementation and providing an enabling environment for development through government agencies, ministries, institutions and departments.
- **Traditional Authorities and Community Leaders:** For their unwavering support and commitment to fostering change within their communities. Your involvement has been essential to our success.
- **The Media:** For amplifying our activities, impact, reach and advocating for policies that support our mission.
- **Staff and Volunteers:** Our achievements are a testament to the dedication and hard work of Savana Signatures' staff, volunteers and interns. Your passion, innovation, and tireless efforts have driven our success across all our implementing regions, districts and communities in Ghana.
- **Beneficiaries/Community Members:** To the communities we serve, and project beneficiaries, thank you for trusting us, embracing change, and actively participating in our programs. Your enthusiasm and resilience inspire us to continue working toward a better future for all.



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