ENGAGE NOW AFRICA

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

AFRICA

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ENGAGE NOW





MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

In 2023, ENA's in-country team and global partners made significant strides in blessing the lives of hundreds of families in Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Ethiopia. In Ghana, we lifted communities through literacy education and vocational training and worked to address the challenges faced by people with Albinism, while successfully rescuing over a hundred trafficking victims. In Sierra Leone, we enhanced educational opportunities with new technology, provided clean water access to remote communities, and delivered vital healthcare services to hundreds of families throughout Bo. In Ethiopia, we brought transformative change by providing clean water, supporting orphan education, empowering women to launch businesses, and raising awareness about human trafficking, while restoring sight with cataract surgeries in Bishoftu. These achievements reflect our unwavering commitment to empowering individuals, inspiring hope, and driving sustainable change for a brighter future. We believe in the potential of every person we serve and are committed to creating environments where they can thrive. Together, we are creating a future filled with opportunity, promise, and hope for all.



Lynette Gay Chairwoman



Alison Mosca Board





Summer Paulos Board



Diana Bingham Board



Sterling Tanner Board



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THE CHALLENGE

Thousands of individuals in Sub-Saharan Africa face health challenges related to a lack of health care and clean water sources.

Hundreds of individuals are trafficked and exploited, including children.

Thousands of individuals have difficulty performing daily tasks due to a lack of education access or face extreme poverty with no way to make a living.

WHAT WE DO: HEAL. RESCUE. LIFT

Our holistic approach focuses on immediate needs with an eye toward long-term sustainability built on a foundation of self-reliance in the communities where we work. By empowering individuals to become agents of change, we seek to create a ripple effect, inspiring others to strive for a better future and generating a lasting positive transformation in the social fabric of African communities.

OUR 2023 IMPACT AT A GLANCE

With each step forward, we continue to build on a foundation of compassion, resilience, and innovation.

PEOPLE RESCUED FROM TRAFFICKING

ILLITERATE ADULTS ENROLLED IN LITERACY AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

3,280

PEOPLE SENSITIZED TO ALBINISM IN GHANA

90,116

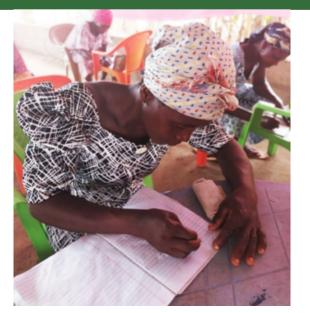
PRIMARY STUDENTS WITH ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER 4,943

ORPHANS SPONSORED

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION TRAINING IN ETHIOPIA AND GHANA 263,924

MONTHLY CLINIC ATTENDANCE IN SIERRA LEONE 1,222

WOMEN STARTED INCOME-GENERATING BUSINESSES 1,164



Never Too Late: Bridget Nutakor's Journey of Self-Improvement and Education

"I will never give up on myself even though I started learning to write and identify the English alphabet at age 45. As I progress, I will continue to be punctual in class and take my studies seriously. I am hopeful I will do better in the coming days and I will be able to help my children with their school assignments and be a good trader. I am grateful for this opportunity to be a student of ENA."

--Bridget Nutakor, Adult Learner, Ho-Volta Region

OUR MISSION

ENA's mission is to heal, rescue, and lift our brothers and sisters in Africa. Our purpose is to provide resources and training to vulnerable populations, enabling them to become self-reliant and substantially improve their lives. We accomplish our mission by developing greater capacity in the individuals and communities we serve. We focus on the fundamental building blocks that lead to individual selfreliance, including clean water, sanitation, health, education, micro-credit, and other income-generating activities that strengthen families and build communities.

"I've been involved with Engage Now Africa for 14 years as both a Donor and Volunteer. I personally have been involved in building a dozen schools and water projects as well as some micro-credit programs over the years. The thing I love about working with Engage Now is that they just get things done. Important and impactful things that truly improve the lives of the people in the communities they serve. Everything from education and literacy to clean water projects, micro-credit, health clinics, and antislavery programs. It's no wonder that they have been recognized as one of the top NGO's in the areas they work in. I can't say enough good things about this organization and about their talented and resourceful leadership." --ENA Donor, Great Non Profits Review 2023

OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

Our theory of change relies on a multi-faceted approach. Our teams design projects and programs focused on addressing the needs of individuals and families vulnerable to poverty, aiming to empower recipients to become selfreliant. We mobilize local assets in collaboration with global partners, government ministers, and tribal leaders to align projects with community needs.

We invest in our employees' leadership capabilities to ensure they have the necessary skills and knowledge to deliver impactful interventions to recipients. We are highly committed to program efficiency, transparency, and accountability, as manifested by a below-average program/administrative cost ratio.



WHERE WE WORK

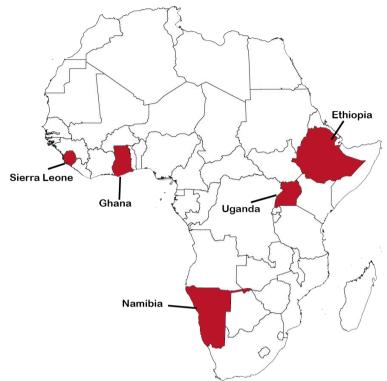
ENA funds projects in five Sub-Saharan African countries to address extreme poverty and help individuals and families become self-reliant.

<u>Ghana Office:</u> 23 full-time employees and 20 part-time facilitators and consultants.

Ethiopia Office: 10 full-time employees.

Sierra Leone Office: 11 full-time employees.

Namibia Office: 2 full-time employees.



PARTNERS

ETHIOPIA

BISHOFTU CITY HEALTH OFFICEMIBISHOFTU CITY CONSTRUCTION OFFICEMIOROMIA BUREAU OF FINANCE AND ECONOMICMICOOPERATIONMIOROMIA EDUCATION BUREAUMIOROMIA WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S AFFAIRS BUREAUCHARITIES AND SOCIETIES AGENCYEAST SHEWA ZONE HEALTH BUREAUCIVIL SOCIETIES ORGANIZATION AGENCY

GHANA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION MINISTRY OF HEALTH MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND SANITATION MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

SIERRA LEONE

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION MINISTRY OF HEALTH SLANGO (SIERRA LEONE ASSOCIATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION) MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND SANITATION MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT







Theresa delivered her fourth child at the newly renovated Mattru Clinic in May 2023. She previously faced challenges with access to maternal health for herself and her children. Theresa now benefits from a newly renovated Mattru Clinic with improved equipment and well-trained clinical staff. The upgraded facility has dramatically improved the quality and range of healthcare services in the area for hundreds of women and children. Theresa's appreciation reflects the broader impact that the renovated Mattru Clinic has on the health and well-being of her community. Pregnant women can experience healthy pregnancies, safer deliveries, and better overall health outcomes with access to improved maternal care.

"Persons living with albinism in Ghana [are] at high risk of developing mental health complications due to discrimination, stigma, and marginalisation"

> --Cogent Education, Volume 11, 2024 - Issue 1



"Life was tough when the three children lost their parents, and the responsibility on me was overwhelming with no job. Engage Now Africa came to our rescue by setting me up with a store where I could sell basic supplies, helping with the daily upkeep of the children and my family. I cannot thank them enough for their support."



ATIYORUM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL KANDIGA





"ASEA's collaboration with ENA provides us the opportunity to empower the potential of vulnerable populations in Sub-Saharan Africa in ways that could not be done without dedicated partners such as ENA." -- KimMarie Larsen Chairwoman of ASEA Advancing Life Foundation



ASEA Advancing Life FOUNDATION

ASEA ADVANCING LIFE FOUNDATION

At ASEA Advancing Life Foundation, we were inspired to support ENA projects in Ghana because of their focus on women, children, and the vulnerable. ENA has a proven track record of effectively breaking cycles of poverty in individuals' and families' lives.

In Ghana North, we witnessed ENA's skilled teams making a significant impact with their responsible management of resources, ensuring donations reached those most vulnerable and in need. During our visit, we saw the lasting impact of projects like schools and clean wells, which provide long-term benefits to communities.

We value ENA's collaborative approach to tackling educational access and empowering families, which aligns with our mission to break the cycles of poverty, suffering, and abuse. At ASEA, we emphasize philanthropy and community empowerment through education and clean water access, promoting a vision of collective prosperity and enhancing lives worldwide through strategic partnerships and impactful giving. 0

ETHIOPIA

THE IMPACT OF WATER

HEALTH IMPROVES. ENERGY SOARS. CONFIDENCE IS BOOSTED.

"I didn't have time to think about or imagine the future because most of the things we wanted needed water. We couldn't think about any other things. We could only think about water."

> --Abebemch Niguse Village leader Korke, Ethiopia



Nearly 75% of Ethiopia's 120 million people lack access to clean drinking water.

"Clean water affects more than just the body; it does wonders for the mind and spirit."

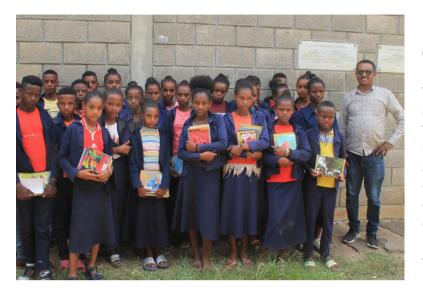
--Diana Bingham, ENA Ethiopia Director of Operations

Clean water is transformative, especially in remote areas where individuals must travel great distances to find it. No water infrastructure often results in children missing school and women walking long distances. Access to clean water restores health, saves valuable time, and allows children to focus on their studies. At ENA, we have witnessed firsthand the profound impact clean water has on families and communities.

The Korke water system will provide clean water to over 8,000 people in fourteen villages in Debre Zeit. This project is more than an infrastructure improvement; it's a lifeline that brings hope and change to thousands of families. Each community receives comprehensive hygiene training to promote healthy practices as part of the construction process. A water committee is also selected and trained to maintain the well, ensuring its long-term sustainability. Community members eagerly anticipate the completion of the water system in 2024 and look forward to the improvements in their personal health and education opportunities for their children.



Building Bright Futures: ENA's Commitment to Orphan Children in Bishoftu



In 2023, ENA sponsored **350 orphans** in three large districts in Bishoftu. Teachers reported that these children thrived in their schools. If a child is orphaned, ENA will provide school uniforms, books, and materials for the upcoming school year. We acknowledge the dedicated efforts of teachers, caretakers, and staff who work to ensure these children receive the love and support they deserve to thrive in the early stages of their life.





ENGINEERING DREAMS: GELANO'S STORY

ENA's unique ability to bless lives empowers vulnerable individuals by removing barriers to education and providing critical support, enabling them to build self-reliance and move themselves out of poverty.

Gelano Rago is a 17-year-old from Watiju village. He lost his mother and father at age four. Due to Gelano's crippled arm, his uncle was ashamed and refused to send him to school. When Gelano was seven, ENA discovered his situation and helped him attend school. Gelano is a gifted student and is currently in 11th grade. He attends a special high school and is preparing for college, where he intends to pursue engineering.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING



194,981 PEOPLE HAVE RECEIVED PREVENTION TRAINING

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023

ENA partnered with leaders from domestic and international human rights organizations to help eradicate human trafficking. Our team in Ethiopia works with the Ministry of Education, Women and Child Affairs, Social and Labor Affairs, The International Organization for Migration (IOM), and local law enforcement.

We train teachers who return to their schools to train staff and educate students. Each of the 22 schools has approximately 1,000-1,500 students. School leadership have created afterschool programs that offer young people a safe gathering place and access to information and materials on human trafficking tricks, tactics, and other prevention methods. ENA has also hosted radio broadcasts in local open markets, reaching over 30,000 people weekly.

Our goals are to create awareness of human trafficking in local communities through sensitization programs, educate vulnerable groups on modern slavery perpetuated by human traffickers, and expose the conditions that allow traffickers to thrive.

"This program has given me a strong conviction to continue to teach our children and communities the dangers of human trafficking. The students now understand more clearly about this problem. Thank you, ENA, for helping our school." --Shewaye Bekele, Shoki school director



EMPOWERING WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

TEACHING BUSINESS SKILLS

In 2023, all 300 women successfully graduated from ENA's incoming generating course. In 2024, 200 women will receive another round of funding.

Our efforts to eliminate poverty multiply as we help women develop the skills and confidence to build and maintain a business of their choice. Our business training program teaches women how to start, grow, and maintain a business. Our team works with women's groups to help them identify their needs and find locally available business resources.

We provide a support network by organizing the women into committees, where they help motivate one another and share advice on growing their businesses. The committees meet weekly with our staff to share their successes and difficulties. ENA offers each woman support, assistance, and encouragement on her journey to financial independence.



"I am very happy and successful and I am progressing on my day to day life because of the training and loan that I got from ENA. I am thankful and God bless ENA."

Alemgenet Daba, 45 Mother of 4 in Bishoftu town



RESTORING SIGHT: CATARACT CAMPAIGNS IN ETHIOPIA

Our cataract care program delivers high-quality, efficient eye care to underserved and vulnerable communities, dramatically improving the lives of thousands.

ENA partners with skilled ophthalmologists and local clinicians to deliver cataract surgeries to blind adults in hundreds of communities throughout Debre Zeit. Our partners have perfected surgical methodologies optimized for low-resource environments. The communities we serve have access to local health posts and are always pre-screened for cataracts, eye infections, and low vision before surgery.



In Ethiopia, 1.1 million people suffer from cataract blindness due to lack of eye care, poor nutrition, trauma, and untreated eye infections

1,800 SCREENED FOR EYE DISEASES
302 SURGERIES PERFORMED
100 PEOPLE RECEIVED GLASSES

Restoring sight can renew family ties and unleash the possibilities of those previously burdened by blindness. Individuals with newly restored sight can move freely without assistance, return to work or school, see loved ones, and, most importantly, pursue their dreams once again.



"I do not have the words to describe how happy I am and how I appreciate Engage Now Africa for helping me see again. It feels like a miracle."

Tsehay Legesse, Bishoftu, Ethiopia



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ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

"The Commission has witnessed communities in urban and rural areas transformed through ENA literacy activities. We believe that the support extended by ENA will have a cascading effect on the communities under its jurisdiction and enable them to touch more lives in Ghana."

-Secretary General National Commission for UNESCO, Ghana

In 2023, ENA Ghana enrolled 1,940 new adult learners in its literacy programs while graduating 1,201 literate adults.

ENA believes literacy and numeracy are vital skills for impoverished men and women to become self-reliant. We address critical needs in vulnerable communities by providing intensive literacy courses to adults. We believe that mobilizing local resources builds communities from the inside.

ENA has impacted the lives of over **40,000** households in Ghana, helping them transition out of poverty. Since **2014**, our program has enrolled **13,469** illiterate adults.





JOB SKILLS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE







ENS's vocational training program has indirectly impacted over 1,700 individuals throughout Ghana.

ENA is committed to fostering sustainable development by investing in vocational skills training that enables individuals to secure sustainable livelihoods. Through tailored initiatives, we address local needs and empower families to break the cycle of poverty, contributing to the socio-economic development of communities and fostering a brighter future for generations to come.

Approximately **65%** of participants in our vocational training actively use the skills acquired, with over **50%** starting micro-businesses in liquid soap, bleach, and disinfectant production. Over **30%** market their products via social media to expand their customer base.

814 GRADUATES CURRENTLY USE SKILLS THEY LEARNED TO EARN INCOME 1,700+ INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES INDIRECTLY IMPACTED

ALBINISM 90,116 1.5+ MILLION

\$9,000+

Medical Treatment

Individuals sensitized

Estimated individuals reached via media

Individuals with albinism face not only health concerns associated with their condition, including compromised vision and high risk of skin cancer, but also cultural stigmas making it difficult to receive an education or maintain long-term employment.

In 2023, ENA made significant strides in advancing awareness and support for individuals with albinism across the country through education, medical access, and financial support.

Focusing on the Greater Accra, Northern, Volta, and Eastern regions, we educated 6,500 students and teachers through school visits. We sensitized over 90,000 individuals through community-based gatherings that included chiefs, queen mothers, assemblymen, pastors, and other opinion leaders.

We invited community members and media to celebrate International Albinism Awareness Day with the theme "Inclusion is Strength." Workshops and presentations by experts such as dermatologists and psychologists fostered greater understanding.







"I struggled in class from primary through senior high school. The struggle continued in nursing school, but thanks to Engage Now Africa, who provided me with reading lenses, my vision and performance have improved. I am immensely grateful for their support."

-- Asana Yakubu



"I am now free from the pain and headaches caused by skin cancer, all thanks to Engage Now Africa for their invaluable help in treating the condition I suffered from for more than five years. Now, I can go about my daily chores without any pain. Thank you, Engage Now Africa, for giving me my life back." -- Aisha Shaibu

HUMAN TRAFFICKING THIS YEAR ENA RESCUED 108 INDIVIDUALS IN GHANA.

ENA actively works to rescue individuals who are exploited and trafficked. We work with dedication to ending all forms of trafficking and exploitation through our End Modern Slavery (EMS) initiative. Our team collaborates with more than **20** government organizations, international NGOs, law enforcement, and local communities to identify and rescue trafficked persons, offering them immediate support and a path toward rehabilitation.

Our primary focus is prevention. Our teams teach vulnerable communities prevention tactics. We partner with local specialized organizations to assist in rescuing and rehabilitating survivors. We also assist law enforcement agencies, attorneys general, and prosecutors who arrest and imprison traffickers and enslavers. Through our rescue initiatives, ENA has reached over **3.5 million** people. "There is a need for all members of society, including political leaders, local stakeholders, and governments, to stand up and help fight against child labor, child trafficking, and other modern slavery-related issues."

> --Lydia Ohenewa, ENA Social Worker

THE PROBLEM

49.6 Million

People live in modern slavery globally



1 in 4 are Children

*Global Estimates of Modern Slavery (2022) from Walk Free

68,943

Individuals Reached by Awareness and Prevention Efforts

80

Successful Rescue Operations

3 150

Law Enforcement and Community Leaders Trained

OUR IMPACT

45

8

Workshops in Interventions: Vulnerable 60% Female Communities Participants

108

Survivors Rescued F

Advocacy Panels and Meetings

15

81%

of Survivors Were Minors



HOUSE OF HOPE

ENA's House of Hope offers all rescued individuals a safe and secure place to reside, where they can access all healing resources, including medical and psychological care, legal aid, rehabilitation, and skill development.

Our team works closely with rescued individuals, families, caregivers, and local partners to create opportunities for social reintegration, assist with short and longterm goals, and connect survivors to ongoing support networks, helping them recover and rebuild their lives.





FROM EXPLOITATION TO EMPOWERMENT

Traffickers lured Angel via social media with promises of travel documents to Cote d'Ivoire, but instead, they forced her into sexual exploitation. After escaping, another trafficker captured her, and she became pregnant. A good Samaritan helped her receive medical attention, where a doctor identified her as a trafficking victim and referred her to Ghana's Department of Social Welfare and ENA. Angel recovered at ENA's Hope transitional shelter. Our partners then assisted her in moving into a safe community and trained her on starting and growing a business.



176 Interventions





Participants



Female



333,033 Media Coverage Reach



Minors







MATTRU CLINIC BRINGING MATERNAL HEALTH CLOSE TO HOME

OUR IMPACT

MONTHLY CLINIC ATTENDANCE	1,222	IMMUNIZATIONS	4,394
CHILDREN UNDER 5 CLINIC ATTENDANCE	847	WELLNESS CHECKS	2,608
NEWBORN DELIVERIES	124	ANTENATAL CARE VISITS	770

In June 2022, Bo's District Medical Office upgraded the Mattru Maternal Child Post to a Community Health Center. Our clinic received this designation by improving healthcare infrastructure while upskilling clinical staff, lab equipment, bedding, and other medical essentials. The installation of a medical laboratory, in partnership with Sunrider International, has provided means for accurate diagnostics, leading to better health outcomes for women. These enhancements have significantly elevated the quality of care for the Mattru community and the eleven surrounding communities. On March 10, 2023, ENA nurses conducted a community outreach in Toubu village, treating **258** patients. Another outreach in Kpawama Village treated **87** patients, showcasing the team's dedication to providing medical care to remote areas.

"One commendable aspect of the Mattru Clinic nurses is how they encourage men to support their wives, especially pregnant women and lactating mothers. Mr. Nbrewa accompanied his wife to the clinic for delivery and joyfully held their baby at the clinic. Thanks to the nurses, their teachings are changing lives in the community."

--Ibrahim Jalloh, ENA Country Director, Sierra Leone



STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES



THE POWER OF LITERACY TO INSPIRE CHANGE

Our literacy program is transforming adult lives by enhancing their skills and driving socioeconomic progress, inspiring growth and opportunity for over 900 participants.

Since January 2023, ENA's literacy program has made remarkable strides, with **318** individuals completing vocational and skill training across **15** centers in the Bo District. Staffed by **24** dedicated facilitators, the program supports **900** participants, empowering them with essential literacy and numeracy skills. The program's success is further underscored by **six graduates** advancing to Njala University's teacher certificate program, showcasing the program's transformative impact. With over **800** graduates, our literacy initiative not only increases adults reading skills but also drives socio-economic development, inspiring hope and progress for the future of Sierra Leone's economic and social success.

The Journey from Mining to Adult Education and Self-Reliance

Currently, 180 illiterate men and women are learning how to read and write in the Sembehun area.

Sembehun-17 is located in a diamond mining area near Bo, where most residents were involved in mining activities. With the depletion of diamonds in the region, community members realized the significance of educating their minds as a gateway to a broader world. As a result, illiterate adults have shifted their focus towards building selfreliance through educational advancement.



THE POWER OF EDUCATION



A NEW ERA OF LEARNING AT TOBU SCHOOL

In October 2023, ENA partnered with a private donor to provide **250** primary-age children in Tobu School with a teacher, computer hardware, manuals, and user guides. Tobu's head teacher, John Charles, believes that proper instruction and computers provide young people access to critical learning resources and unique educational opportunities while helping bridge knowledge gaps and improve digital skills for children in remote communities. Daily classes offer engaging learning opportunities and personalized education for students as they prepare for their future in higher education.







NURTURING CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL POTENTIAL

In September 2023, ENA distributed school materials to **115** children from amputee families in Mattru on the Rail. Our initiative aimed to ensure every child has access to education, regardless of societal status. Representatives from the **Ministry of Education** urged parents to monitor their children's academic performance and take full advantage of offered educational resources. They also thanked ENA for supporting the government's efforts to provide quality education to vulnerable children.

THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN FOR YOUR TIRELESS EFFORTS IN SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY.

"I am grateful for Engage Now Africa's efforts to help build and support our school. Thanks to your support, we can access quality education and learning materials that greatly enhance our academic performance. Your efforts have also helped to support our teachers, who have become better equipped to provide us with the best possible education. We want to assure Engage Now that we will dedicate ourselves to our studies and believe that with your continued support, we can achieve great things in the future."

--John Charles, Tobu Headmaster, Bo, Sierra Leone

CLEAN WATER



ENA constructed clean water wells for five primary schools in the Bo School District in response to a request by the Deputy Director of Schools under the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology.

90% of Schools in the Bo District Lack Access to Clean Water.

Due to ENA's reputation for supporting children and education, Ministry representatives requested assistance in providing clean water for schoolchildren. Schools were chosen based on the urgency of need and high enrollment rates. ENA partnered with the Ministries of Education, Health, and Water Resources. Each school set up a water committee of six students responsible for cleaning and maintaining each well.

4,943

Students will have access to clean water at school.

In addition to school projects, eight broken wells were rehabilitated, ensuring the communities had continued access to clean and safe drinking water. ENA also constructed a hand pump for the Theresa Hakim Community Health Clinic in Njagbla, serving over **11,000** people in the community and addressing a critical need for clean water.

> **11,000+** People provided with clean water in Njagbla.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY JAN. 1 2023 - DEC. 31 2023



*ENA audit conducted by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP. A copy of the full audit report available upon request.



Thank You for Being a Vital Part of Our Engage Now Africa Family.

We sincerely thank all our donors and partners. Your generous contributions and unwavering support make our work possible and have profoundly impacted the lives of millions in Ethiopia, Ghana, Sierra Leone, and beyond. Because of you, families have been empowered through programs that advance education, build financial independence, provide healthcare initiatives, offer community training and interventions, and construct schools and clean water facilities. With your continued support, we can reach even more communities and families in need.



"In 2023, Engage Now Africa is proud to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to tackling pressing social issues through highly targeted initiatives. Our focused efforts on albinism sensitization, vocational and adult literacy, Water and Sanitation, School projects, and eradicating modern slavery demonstrate our enduring dedication to nurturing an inclusive, educated, and liberated society. We continue furthering our mission to 'heal, rescue, and uplift our brothers and sisters,' ensuring sustainable development and empowerment for all."

- Cecilia Amankwah, Country Director, Engage Now Africa - Ghana

