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# NewsLetter

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## HIGHLIGHTS

• 77th UN Day marked in Ghana.

• Ghana declares end of Marburg virus disease outbreak.

• It's About Ability: Celebrating children with disabilities through sports for inclusion.

• Training on Quality Management

& Assurance, Good Manufacturing Practices for selected 1D1F and SMEs in the North

• Challenges in sustainable heritage conservation in Ghana

# End of Year Message

*From the UN Resident Coordinator's Office*

In the context of the ever-present 'three-C' challenges (COVID, Climate and Conflict), over 30 UN agencies and partners supported a huge range of initiatives to address critical development challenges facing Ghana at national, regional and local level while also engaging in critical conversations with neighboring countries. In 2022, we achieved a number of landmark value-adding actions across the UN system in Ghana, supporting Ghana's efforts to participate effectively in the Transforming Education Summit and COP 27 as well as conduct its second Voluntary National Review and 4th round Universal Periodic Review. We continued to support the strengthening of the resilience of Ghana's food systems – following on from the Food Systems Summit in 2021, as well as strengthening and supporting Ghana's resilience in key areas such as health, education, nutrition, social protection businesses, digitalization and peace, and as supporting key groups to ensure that no one is left behind including women, girls, children, persons with disability, refugees, migrants, young people and many more across a raft of settings – urban, rural, border and beyond.

We also developed and concluded a new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework which sets out an ambitious program of work for the period 2023 – 2025 around three core pillars – inclusive Economic Transformation, Equitable Access to Services and Durable Peace, integrating a number of complex cross-cutting issues and committing to adaptive, agile and responsive approaches. We await the Government's final endorsement of this document to enable us move forward positively and constructively as we support Ghana on its journey towards self-reliance.

We thank the Government of Ghana for its unflinching support and the strong partnership we have enjoyed over the years. We are also grateful for our numerous partnerships with others – civil society, the private sector and development

partners who have supported our work.

To all of you across all agencies (from staff to volunteers and interns and supporting partners), let me express our appreciation for your commitment, service and personal sacrifices to the cause of the UN. Thank you.

As we round up on our commitments for 2022, please let us all find time to stop, rest and recharge. The new year will bring new challenges and we remain determined to support Ghana continue on its laudable journey towards self-reliance and our wider work to make the world a better place. This will always be our charge to keep.

I wish you all a happy and restful holiday period (a very merry Christmas to those who celebrate). May 2023 bring us all good health and prosperity – in our work and in our lives and in our families.

Warm regards

**Charles**

UN Resident Coordinator, Ghana



## Training on Quality Management & Assurance, Good Manufacturing Practices for selected 1D1F and SMEs in the North



Factory staff processing baked mangoes for export; ©UNIDO

Issues of conformity to standards, product regulation and product safety in general have become key considerations influencing the choices of today's consumer, and many markets require that products reaching their regions have acquired certification, quality, or at the minimum, be registered by national conformity bodies.

As Ghana works to transform from a raw material-based country to a sustainable, industrial nation and scale up its sustainable structural transformation, it is imperative that the cosmetics, cassava and fruit value-chain integration at regional and national levels is strengthened.

As part of a joint effort by

UNIDO, Government of Ghana, and the European Union to sustain the future of the manufacturing eco-system, another session of quality assurance training workshops has been organised for 50 "One District One Factory" (1D1F) companies, targeted at factories and small-scaled manufacturers in the middle and northern zones of Ghana.

The UNIDO Chief Technical Advisor for WACOMP-Ghana, Mr. Charles Kwame Sackey, said the processors of cassava, shea and fruit products face a myriad of practical challenges which impact the safety and quality of their final products, especially for the international market. "The training aimed to support 1D1F enterprises to improve and sustain quality, hygiene and

good manufacturing principles to minimise the risks associated with production and to improve product quality," he said.

He further stressed that, "avoiding contamination and improving efficiency are very important components of WACOMP and for the European Union."

The Chief Commercial Officer and Head of government's flagship 1D1F Initiative, Mr. Kofi Addo, confirmed that standards have improved since the first training in Accra, in August 2022.

Eighty (80) factories have so far benefitted from the partnership between the Ministry of Trade and Industry and WACOMP – Ghana.

## Plant scale production of botanical anti-microbial based hand sanitizer by SMEs



The UNIDO delegation from Ghana in a practical session at the IPFT Factory; ©UNIDO

Selected entrepreneurs from Ghana have undergone a 3-day training on 'Pilot plant scale production of botanical anti-microbial based hand sanitizer at the Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (IPFT) in India. The exercise is under a UNIDO project to promote public health and resilience against COVID-19.

At the end of the training participants were able to

The third virtual training on EN ISO/IEC 17025:2017 for the Accreditation of Testing Laboratories has been launched by the West African Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP) –Ghana, funded by the European Union and the Government of Switzerland-funded Global Quality and Standards Programme (GQSP). The 11-week-long training is expected to end in January 2023.

produce a sample of the bio-based hand sanitizer, and go through the quality assurance processes. They had a chance to also visit the Analytical and Bio-sciences departments of the institute.

The delegation was thankful to UNIDO, Japan government, and IPFT for funding such an educative opportunity on the "bio-based" hand sanitizer technology; the first of its kind to be replicated in Ghana.

## Shaping our future in a world in transformation

The last two years have had a devastating impact for billions of people around the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. Humanity's biggest challenges – the climate and biodiversity crises, inequalities, and political polarization as well as technological upheavals - are piling up and feeding off each other. This is happening at a speed and scale beyond what humans have ever experienced.

The latest Human Development Report (HDR), "[\*Uncertain Times, Unsettled Lives: Shaping our Future in a Transforming World\*](#)" released by the UNDP, argues that layers of uncertainty are stacking up and interacting to unsettle life in unprecedented ways. [Read more.](#)

## 3rd cohort of the UNIDO ISO 17025 online training is launched

So far, 63 laboratory analysts across several institutions who were part of the first and second cohorts have successfully completed and received their certificates.

This UNIDO virtual training is aimed at enhancing the capacities of conformity assessment service providers in its member

3rd COHORT

Cont. on pg. 5

## WASH facilities in Kumasi commissioned to address water, sanitation and hygiene challenge

In October, UNICEF conducted a high-level monitoring visit to Kumasi, Ashanti region with the Hon. Minister for Sanitation and Water Resources, Madam Cecilia Abena Dapaah and His Excellency Ambassador of Denmark to Ghana, Mr. Tom Nørring, and the UNICEF Representative in Ghana, Anne-Claire Dufay.

The purpose of the visit was to commission newly-built WASH infrastructures selected communities, that formed part of the project between the Governments of Denmark and Ghana, through UNICEF in Ghana, to address the challenge of water, sanitation and hygiene services in high density settlements, access to care and protection services and communication and awareness in some low-income and high-density

communities in both Greater Accra and Greater Kumasi.

During the mission, a 20-seater gender-separated toilet facility, equipped with change rooms for menstrual hygiene management for female teachers and adolescent girls was commissioned. In addition, an Automatic Water-Dispensing Device which had been designed by the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology was also unveiled in a local community, making water supply accessible to the community.

Thanks to the partnership with the Government of Denmark, an additional 70,000 people from 9 low-income communities have access to safe water through a 33km long pipeline network; improved WASH infra-

structure in 16 schools and 14 health and WASH facilities of 7 public spaces also improved.

Madam Dapaah praised UNICEF and Ghana Water Company Limited for their achievements. Anne-Claire Dufay thanked the Government of Denmark for the generous support to Ghana in the most difficult time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Adding that "as a result, Ghana is moving a step closer to reaching the Sustainable Development Goal 6." She also congratulated the Government of Ghana for the continued close partnership with UNICEF. "Together, we demonstrated that we generate the synergies required to implement key multi-sectoral interventions to effectively target and reach the most vulnerable families, women, and children in Ghana" She indicated.



Commissioning of the WASH facilities; ©UNICEF

### 3rd COHORT **Cont. from pg. 4**

states to support their accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 which plays an important role in supporting the provision of accurate and reliable results from laboratory testing, calibration, sampling, and measurement services across many sectors.

The training sessions will use live video conferencing sessions to provide interactive time with subject matter experts.

## Gender Action Learning Systems in project implementation yield positive results

The Ghana Agricultural Sector Investment Programme (GASIP) is an IFAD-funded project launched in 2014 to provide a framework and institutional basis for a long-term engagement and financing for scaling up investment in private sector-led pro-poor agricultural value chain development. Its overall goal is to contribute to sustainable poverty reduction in rural Ghana by enabling agribusinesses, including smallholders, enhance their profitability and climate change resilience.

In 2021, GASIP introduced Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS), a community-led empowerment methodology to promote more harmonious and violence-free relationships in families and communities, in two districts where GASIP is being implemented. The pilot started with national stakeholders' workshop, catalyst workshop and community piloting in Potsin and Biu communities for selected GALS Champions to lead the peer sharing and learning process.

By September 2022, 812 household members, comprising 553 females and

259 males had been reached. In terms of outcomes, these tools have resulted in increased joint household decision on resource allocation and use, reduced labor burden and time use on household activities by women, and increased joint household investment and savings.

Benjamin, a GALS training participant admits that the training has been impactful in the lives of his household members. "I have two wives and we never had discussions together as a family. After the workshop, I shared the gender balance tree and vision journey with them, and also decided to change myself first.

Now I fetch water for my family, we perform household activities together, I eat dinner together with my wives, and rotationally work on our farms together. Because of the happiness I have enjoyed from the GALS process, I have shared GALS with 168 people after the workshop because it has changed family."

The GALS training has also contributed to reduced social vices and increased household investment. Baba, a beneficiary of the GALS training reports that "we used to drink and entertain ourselves without focus on the family and children". After the workshop however, "I had the personal reflection to change from my old way. Now I am attentive to the children needs. If every man changes the children will grow to practice same..."

**GENDER ACTION Cont. on pg. 7**



Benjamin and his two wives ©IFAD

## UN in Ghana supports Government of Ghana to mitigate crisis on food systems

In June 2022, the United Nations secured a grant funding of US\$250,000 from the Joint SDG Fund under the Development Emergency Modality (DEM) to support Ghana implement short term, but transformation actions to mitigate the impact of the three-dimensional crisis of food, energy, and fuel on Ghana's food systems. Under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator and through the WFP and the FAO, the UN is using the grant

to implement a joint project that seeks to strengthen scale up of food security and financial systems resilience in Ghana, with the overall objective of implementing short term interventions to respond to the budding food systems crises and catalyse medium to long term transformative actions. The project runs for six months from July to December 31, 2022.

It is supporting the Ministry of Food and Agriculture to upscale the food security and

nutrition monitoring system (FSNMS) from 60 districts to 120 districts in Ghana; supporting the development and review of technical production manuals, extension materials and delivery mechanisms for organic fertilizers and other soil fertility enhancement tools for sustained productivity; and enhancing capacities of farmers on composting, and use of organic fertilizers with other soil fertility measures using e-extension. In support of efforts to address the current financing challenges, the joint project is also supporting the strategic portfolio review of the SDGs Delivery Unit of the Ministry of Finance to enhance government's resource mobilization and partnership strategy, for the SDGs.



Participants at an FAO workshop to develop and review technical production manuals, extension materials and delivery mechanisms for organic fertilizers.

©FAO

### GENDER ACTION -Cont. from pg. 6

Asiwongle, Baba's wife confirms that after the workshop Baba has changed. "He helps me to perform household chores, we discuss and take decisions jointly. Because of that, I have also changed my attitude in managing household activities, I respect him compared to before, now the love between us has grown further."

Furthermore, there are reported cases of increased household assets such as building structures where families have been observed to jointly decide on improving household shelter such as investment in concrete structures such as blockhouse by molding cement block

purchase of lands, construction of concrete homes. There are also more community-driven development approaches towards group farms, tractor, tricycle for value chain development, and increased households' investment, savings and credit.

## Understanding the implications of emerging corporate due diligence laws for SMEs in developing countries

The development of due diligence legislation must be more SME-inclusive. Speakers at a session titled "[From Free Trade to Fair Trade: Implication for SMEs in developing countries](#)", held at the margins of the World Trade Organization's Public Forum 2022 discussed the impact that emerging mandatory corporate due diligence legislation has on SMEs in developing countries.

Jointly organized with the Permanent Mission of Ghana to the UN, the UNIDO session was to enable the voices of developing countries heard in the global dialogue on sustainable trade.

Currently, there is a move away from a purely voluntary approach in meeting social and environmental standards to a mandatory system, with binding human rights and environmental obligations for companies. Several nations have recently adopted corporate due diligence regulations and the European Commission is following suit at the EU member-state level. The joint development dialogue session was held to discuss how SMEs in developing countries can continue to benefit from unhindered market access.

Building on the vision of its Director General, Gerd Müller for UNIDO to be a leading platform for knowledge and technology transfer and the need for a fairer global trade system with binding international standards, the Organization prioritizes sustainability in trade. It emphasizes the importance of robust standards, social

and environmental sustainability in its operations and activities, as a means of improving human well-being and stopping climate breakdown.

Rita Brobey, Operations Manager and co-owner of Hendy Farms outlined the extensive challenges currently facing smallholder farmers and SMEs in developing countries in complying with voluntary sustainability standards. "The investment needed to meet the required standards is quite high and the financial rewards are low." She expressed the need for capacity building to help businesses to comply with the emerging mandatory due diligence requirements.

These concerns were echoed by Afua Asare, Chief Executive Officer of the Ghana Export Promotion Authority. "Some SMEs are genuinely under resourced and unable to comply with the new regulations due to the multiple technical barriers and high cost of the tedious processes involved and therefore risk to go out of business. Lack of knowledge of these new directives among SMEs is another threat and needs to be addressed at institutional level through capacity building".



Dr. Asabea Asare, CEO of Ghana Export Promotion Authority (middle) and Madam Rita Brobey (3rd right), Co- Manager of Hendy Farms in a group photo with some of the delegates at the WTO Public Forum. ©UNIDO

## Impact of community Savings Groups on family well-being

Village savings and loan associations (VSLAs) are community-based financial organisations that provide simple savings and loan facilities to members. It enables members' access and control over their own resources. Many saving groups have low legal, economic, and social barriers to entry. The absence of documentation requirements, proximity to home, and small flexible transactions make these groups accessible and thus suitable and desirable service for women and marginalized groups in underserved markets.

The VSLA model provides a poverty reduction approach to the poor, mostly women, to integrate methods of taking out loans and savings in their day-to-day lives. A focus group discussion, organized by IFAD in project communities revealed that saving groups (SG) have positively impacted the lives of members. The loans taken by members have been mainly used to establish small businesses, improve farming and livestock, and buy means of transportation such as motorcycles. Since their participation, members of the VSLA have been empowered economically and thus are able to make decisions that



Sumbu VSLA group at Varimpere, Wa West district, Upper West region. ©IFAD

covered education, health, and livelihood. Clearly, the VLSA approach is paramount in boosting women's economic status. By saving and accessing microloans through VSLAs, women are able to invest in small businesses and farming, which results in improving their children's education, health, and the livelihood of the entire family.

During a visit to a beneficiary community, women reported increased self-confidence and self-esteem due to better self-reliance from participating in SGs. Many talked about having been shy and soft-spoken, but through the demands of active participation in regular weekly SG meetings, they learned to express themselves. Other women reported greater knowledge of saving and business management and how to diversify into more profitable

products. They learned new social and leadership skills from interacting with women and men SG members

Women and men reported that men increasingly valued and respected women after the women joined an SG. A consistently made comment by women was that they were now "valued assets" to their families because they now shared responsibility for household expenses. Men also expressed increased admiration for their wives due to their greater economic contributions to the household and new knowledge.

The most significant changes to women's and men's lives reported were the material and economic benefits of SGs.

## Enhancing community cohesion and livelihood opportunities in border communities

With funding from the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the Government of United States of America, the UN in Ghana, through the IOM, has engaged stakeholders and members of six border communities in the Upper East region to seek feedback on the

creation of dialogue platforms, awareness raising activities and livelihood enhancement projects.

These inception meetings brought together representatives from traditional councils, district assemblies, youth groups, women associations and Border Management Agencies, as well as religious leaders.



An official from the Ghana Police Service addressing participants at a TownHall meeting; ©IOM

More information through community engagement in the Upper East region and partners address border security issues can be found [here](#).

## Improved technology is facilitating shea production in Ghana

In Ghana, especially in the Northern and Savannah regions, the livelihoods of many households depend on shea and its products. Over 470,000 women farmers derive economic benefits from either picking shea or processing it into shea butter. Shea butter is often referred to as women's "gold". Despite the great importance of shea to women, shea butter production has been

largely done through manual labour-intensive processes. This does not only affect the quality of the shea products but also poses a great threat to the women's health. It has therefore become necessary to support women shea producers to improve their production efficiency with appropriate technology. [Read more.](#)

## "West Africa Connect" event in Accra benefit Mango, Cassava and ICT value chains in ECOWAS Countries

After a successful edition in 2021, "West Africa Connect" was back with a second regional B2B networking event held in Accra, Ghana.

West Africa Connect, which is organized in the context of the West Africa Competitiveness Programme

(WACOMP), funded by the European Union, aims to facilitate linkages between priority value chains actors in West Africa, therefore ensuring the sustainability of these regional value chains.

This year, the event was attended by more than 100 mango, cassava and

**W/AFRICA CONNECT -Cont. on pg 23**

## Ghana hosts 54 African National Commissions for UNESCO meeting



Group photo of participants from various African National Commissions for UNESCO; ©Ghana National Commission for UNESCO

The Ghana Commission for UNESCO under the auspices of the Government of Ghana with support from UNESCO Ghana hosted a regional meeting of African National Commissions on UNESCO's Global Priority Africa Flagship program in September in Accra. As key stakeholders of the Global Priority Africa programme, the National Commissions (NCs), deliberated on Africa's collective actions toward a renewed implementation agenda. The conference was to raise awareness of the five flagships for NCs to be able to prioritize and participate in the Global Priority Africa flagships effectively; engage NCs and experts to share experiences on best practices and on the implementation process and to capacitate NCs in Member States to mobilize for partnerships, resources, and enhance advocacy. [Read more.](#)

## Rethinking tourism as a pathway for development

Tourism is considered one of the fastest-growing economic sectors. In 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic, the sector contributed 10.4 per cent to global GDP and about 7 per cent of Africa's GDP. This changed when the global pandemic hit, bringing with it unprecedented lockdowns and international travel restrictions. As a result, many tourism-dependent economies lost considerable revenues and millions of jobs. Tourism-dependent economies in Africa were not spared. After only three

## Towards zero poverty: Dignity for all in practice

17 October marks the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. This Day 'honors' the millions of people suffering from poverty and their daily courage and recognizes the essential global solidarity and shared responsibility we hold to eradicate poverty and combat all forms of discrimination. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development envisions a world with 'no poverty' where 'no one is left behind.' A world of "universal respect for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination." Yet, after 7 years of its implementation we still have more than 10 percent of the world's population in extreme poverty. A majority of the world's poor live in Middle Income Countries. They have limited access to basic needs like food, water, shelter, healthcare, and adequate housing. [Read more.](#)

months of the pandemic, countries across the continent lost more than \$55 billion in travel and tourism revenues. This had a huge impact on social spending and livelihoods. [Read more.](#)

## Attaining liveable and sustainable cities and towns- The way forward with the Ghana National Urban Policy

The Ghana Urban Forum (GUF) draws inspiration from the World Urban Forum, convened by the UN-Habitat to promote good and effective urban development globally. This year's forum was the 9th edition since its inception in 2009. Supported by UN-Habitat and other stakeholders, the Government of Ghana, under the auspices of the Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development (MLGDRD) organizes the GUF to discuss relevant urban development issues to promote good urban governance and development in Ghana. The 2022 GUF was on the theme "Rapid urban growth in Ghana: Promoting effective urban planning for liveable and sustainable cities and towns". It engaged stakeholders in updating the National Urban Policy and Action Plan.

the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Emeritus Professor Kwasi Kwafo-Adarkwa intimated that the forum presents an opportunity to discuss challenges facing cities and towns on rapid urbanization, and how they impact economies and cities with the view to identifying standards for planning and development.

The Greater Accra Regional Minister, Hon. Henry Quartey reiterated the need for key stakeholders to interrogate and harness opportunities that will help address the urban challenges in Ghana's cities and towns. Hon. Francis Asenso-Boakye, Minister for Works and Housing urged the forum to stimulate discussions that will proffer sustainable solutions for the environment, housing, mobility and spatial planning to meet the targets of the SDGs.

Mr. Charles Abani, recounted the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the social structure of cities, and the consequent disproportionate impacts on specific segments of the population, especially vulnerable and marginalized groups including people living with disability. He expressed his gratitude to UN-Habitat and the World Bank for driving the sustainable development agenda. He enjoined all to act now to create a better urban future for all.

The MLGDRD Minister, Hon. Daniel Botwe noted that the demographic and climatic changes have exacerbated urban challenges, highlighting congestion, environmental degradation, urban sprawl, depletion of sensitive ecological areas among others. He urged stakeholders to have broader consultations to address these challenges.

The former Vice Chancellor of

The UN Resident Coordinator,



Panel members at the forum; ©UNIC Accra



Group photo of high-level dignitaries at the opening ceremony; ©UNIC Accra

## The bread girl: Determination and resilience of a former refugee



Thelma, proudly holding her maiden publication, 'The Drive'; ©UNHCR

In the early 2000s at Buduburam Camp, most people knew her as the 'bread girl.' This nine-year-old used to carry bread and pastries baked by her mum to sell in and around the camp just so her family could make ends meet. Most days before and after school, Thelma had to go vending pastries, making her always late for classes.

According to Thelma, growing up with her mum, a single parent, and

three other siblings in a camp setting was challenging. She recounted how she and her siblings used to queue for UNHCR food rations at the camp. She even remembers her UNHCR case number and that of her family members.

'Sometimes the queues were so long I exchanged positions with my siblings when I got tired, or we used stones to block our slots in the queue, which mostly resulted in fights during food distribution.'

Born in Liberia in 1992, Thelma Ahamba was the fourth child of her mother. When war ravaged Liberia in the early 1990s, her uncle's position as a political figure in Liberia made them an easy target. The family decided to flee to Ghana for safety. Between 1993 and 2001, they kept returning to Liberia, hoping things would improve until 2001 when they finally decided to register as refugees and stay in the camp at Buduburam in Ghana, as the situation back home was not the best. [Read more](#) about Thelma's story as she narrates her journey to becoming a Digital Marketing Strategist and an Author. Her first published book 'The Drive' was recently launched.

## Business development training and psychosocial support help returnees rebuild their lives

In October, IOM Ghana with the Ghana Enterprises Agency, Prudential Bank Ghana, National Vocational Training Institute (NVTI), and NADMO, and with funding from the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF), facilitated business development trainings for returnees. Held in

Kumasi, Techiman, and Kintampo, the trainings included identification of viable business ideas, how to operate a business and general business accounting principles guided by the national curriculum for business development.

In partnership with the Ghana Psychological Association and the

Ghana Health Service, returnees also received individual psychosocial counselling and group trainings on dealing with psychological distress associated with return, such as managing stress and anxiety.

## UN in Ghana commits at least \$260m to support Ghana's development priorities between 2023 and 2025



UN RC, Charles Abani (M) and WFP Country Director for Ghana, Barbara Clemens (L) and the Executive Secretary of the National Council of Persons with Disabilities, Esther Akua Gyamfi (R) announcing the UN's commitment; ©UNESCO/George Koranteng

The UN in Ghana participated boldly in the 10th Global Citizen Festival, co-hosted by Accra, to announce a commitment of at least \$260 million to empower people and institutions through capacity development and other support between 2023 and 2025 through its

new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, while working to ensure that no one is left behind – women and girls, children, the youth, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized or excluded groups.

It further committed to work across sectors on climate change, digitalization, and urbanization and to mobilize additional resources for achieving the SDGs and encourage contributions to the UN Joint SDG Fund to support this ambition.

[Read more.](#)

## Use of energy-efficient appliances could halve MSMEs' utility costs

Micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) could save close to half of their utility costs if they use energy-efficient appliances, according to an audit commissioned by the UNDP. This was revealed during a presentation on the key findings of the audit at a training

for MSMEs on energy and resource efficiency across six districts in Ghana. The audit approach involved a walk-through and patterns analyses of utility usage and waste generation by 15 selected businesses including manufacturing MSMEs and hotels across six selected districts. [Read more.](#)

## Empowering lives towards inclusive development in Ghana

The central and transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is to leave no one behind. This requires fervent commitment to eradicate poverty in all its forms, end discrimination and exclusion, and reduce inequalities. Yet, some people who have important roles to play as change agents, are often excluded. A deliberate effort to empower those being left behind will benefit society at large. Yakubu is an example of someone who was left behind but now feels included and empowered, thanks to a deliberate support.

[Read more.](#)

## Workshop on advancing the anti-racism and anti-discrimination agenda in Ghana

The UN supported the “Workshop on Advancing the Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination Agenda as a Way to Ensure Social Inclusion and Promote Regional Integration in Ghana” as part of activities launching the biennial Pan-African Historical Festival (PANAFEST) and Emancipation Day 2023 led by the PANAFEST Foundation.

The workshop sought to develop ideas and strategies that will advance the anti-racism and anti-discrimination agenda while stimulating interest in research on new forms of slavery linked with globalization. It also sought to cultivate an anti-racism partnership to enhance intercultural dialogues, inclusion, and diversity, promoting regional and national integration. Discussions were also dedicated to identifying the means to tap into the resource and capacities of Africans on the continent and in



UNESCO Ghana Country Head, Mr. Abdourahamane Diallo addressing the audience.

©UNESCO

the diaspora for mutual benefit.

Organized through a collaboration between UNESCO, the Ghana Culture Forum, PANAFEST, the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, and the Ghana Tourism Authority, the workshop drew inspiration from UNESCO's Routes of the Enslaved Peoples: Resistance, Liberty and Heritage project and also Ghana's experience in advancing Africa - African Diasporan relations in significantly reflective and structured ways such as PANAFEST, Emancipation Day

Celebrations and the Year of Return program held in Ghana in 2019. It also marked the observation of the International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition and contributed to the UNESCO Global Forum against Racism and International Day for Discrimination 2022.

### End racism. Build peace

Millions of people around the world face racism, racial discrimination, anti-Semitism, xenophobia and related intolerance. The 2022 International Peace Day theme 'End Racism. Build Peace' is a timely reminder of the importance of appreciating our differences and acknowledging our common humanity. Racism is a threat to human security. Sadly, it persists and is being expressed in new forms. The United Nations has noted that three-quarters of the world's major conflicts have a cultural dimension. Persistent stereotyping, prejudice expressed in discriminatory actions by a majority group towards minority groups can degenerate into mutual distrust. UNDP's Human Development Report 2021 shows that there is a steep rise in polarization globally. [Read More.](#)

## Ghana declares end of Marburg virus disease outbreak



WHO Technical Officer visits the Marburg virus isolation centre at the Apinto Government Hospital during the outbreak; ©WHO

Ghana has declared the end of the Marburg virus disease outbreak that was confirmed in July. It was the first time the highly infectious haemorrhagic fever was detected in the West African country. Ghana's Ministry of Health made the declaration after no new cases were reported over the past 42 days, or two incubation periods—the time between infection and the onset of symptoms.

Following the confirmation, the health authorities, with support from the WHO and other health partners, swiftly rolled out outbreak control measures, stepping up disease surveillance, testing, contact-tracing, clinical care as well as raising public awareness and working with communities to support disease prevention efforts. [Read more.](#)

## Ghana targets over 7 million in polio vaccination drive



Assisted by his mother, six months old Sefadzi receives vaccine against polio variant type 2 as WHO Technical Officer monitors; ©WHO

The Government of Ghana, with the support of the United Nations in Ghana and other partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), rolled out a polio vaccination campaign, targeting children under five years across all 16 regions of

Ghana. This follows the confirmation of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) in the country from two acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) cases; one each from North Gonja District in Savanna Region and West Mamprusi in North-East Region. More than 7 million under 5 children were targeted for the novel Oral Polio Vaccine type 2 (nOPV2). WHO and UNICEF provided technical and logistics support to field teams for the nOPV2 round 1 campaign which seeks to ensure that every child is reached and dosed to break the transmission of poliomyelitis in Ghana. A total of 40 WHO and UNICEF staff supported the planning and coordination, vaccine accountability monitoring and social mobilization and communication in this campaign. At the end of the campaign total of 6,554,376 eligible Ghanaian children under 5 years were successfully vaccinated in 261 districts across the 16 regions. [Read more.](#)

## UN marks International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week through media and school club event



To mark International Lead Poisoning Prevention week (24 – 31 October), UNICEF in collaboration with non-profit organization Pure Earth planned activities in partnership with the state broadcaster, Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC). Activities included a colloquium hosted by Curious Minds which involved a combined group of students of the Ghana Institute of Journalism and students from two basic schools. The interaction took the form of lecturettes followed by a question-and-answer session in which students who excelled received awards. Some students pledged to become ambassadors for prevention of lead exposure, by spreading the information that they had received.

For another school, the event included a school group developing several communication assets, including an anthem, a poem, a short sketch and an exhibition of illustrations all designed to draw attention to the potential harm that can be en-

countered from contact with lead as well as the means of preventing exposure. To complement the offline activities, UNICEF prioritized this anniversary week through its social media channels, generating unique content which had on Facebook and Instagram total reach of 29,699 and 307 likes and comments and on Twitter a total of 1018 impressions and 69 engagements.



Children participating in school club event, ILPPW ©UNICEF

## Empowering adolescent girls through improved access to reproductive health education and rights-based quality SRH Services in Ghana.

The UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme Steering Committee has conducted a field visit in the Upper East region to observe the progress of implementation and provide a platform for engagement with target groups and beneficiaries.

The visit, led by the Head of Cooperation for Global Affairs Canada Kathleen Turner, the UNFPA Representative, Yisa Barnabas, and the UNICEF Deputy Representative OIC, Ramesh Bhusal, took place in four communities. It provided an opportunity for UNFPA and UNICEF to showcase relevant interventions, impacts, and results of the various projects. The strong synergy between the two UN agencies helped to engage with regional/district-level stakeholders and interact with communities and adolescent beneficiaries. Funded by the government of Canada, this programme supports the Government of Ghana and CSOs to accelerate the multisectoral policy response and address adolescent girls' disadvantages and vulnerability.

## Redefining mental health-care in Ghana

In Ghana, there have been efforts by the government to improve mental healthcare services at all levels. However, significant gaps remain, with only about 2% of Ghana's 2.3 million people living with mental health conditions receiving psychiatric treatment and support from health facilities, according to WHO. There are only 39 psychiatrists (0.13 per 100 000 people) for the entire population of whom an estimated 2.3 million people have mental health conditions and need care.

To help countries like Ghana address the gaps in mental health, the WHO established the Director General's Special Initiative for Mental Health with



Staff of participating agencies in the field; ©UNICEF



WHO Technical Officer delivering a training on WHO Special Initiative for Mental Health in the Western North region of Ghana; ©WHO

the vision to ensure that all people in the target population in the selected countries achieve the highest standard of mental health and well-being. [Read more](#)

In addition, the Government of Ghana has been making efforts to improve mental health service delivery through its National Mental Health Policy 2019–2030. In line with this policy, WHO, with funding from the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (UK-FCDO), launched a three-year QualityRights Initiative in 2019 to improve quality of care and promote the human rights of people living with mental health conditions. [Read more.](#)

## Forging stakeholder collaboration for improved healthcare for persons living with epilepsy and other neurological disorders



Group picture of stakeholders. ©WHO

Neurological disorders are a significant contributor to the global mortality and morbidity. They are re-

sponsible for close to 9 million deaths per year. It is estimated that globally, about 50 million people suffer from epilepsy alone. Out of

this number, 80% live in low- and middle-income countries where only 1 out of 4 has access to treatment.

In Ghana, it is estimated that 1% of the population live with epilepsy, representing 270,000 people, with a treatment gap of 85%.

As a result, WHO and other partners have been engaging stakeholders to share ideas towards the effective implementation of the Intersectoral global action plan on epilepsy and neurological disorders in Ghana. [Read more.](#)

### High-level forum on Sti4sdgs

The government of Ghana, in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission and UNESCO, hosted a 2-day high-level Forum on Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) in October in Accra as part of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) project "Strengthening STI for Sustainable Development in Africa."

Participants explored possible and available financing mechanisms to support existing & future initiatives and partnerships. Governments were urged to increase collaboration between industry and universities, to ensure the contribution and growth of indigenous knowledge in STI, and to invest in transforming the higher education and research sectors to meet global, continental, regional, and national requirements for agriculture, health, water and sanitation, trade and industry, STI.

### 3-day workshop on Digital Skills and Reproductive Health Education

The Ghana National Association of Teachers has organized a 3-day workshop on digital skills and Reproductive Health Education (RHE). This workshop was held in collaboration with UNESCO, the Ghana Education Service and Savanna Signatures. About 130 teachers were trained in Emergency Remote Teaching (ERT) Training under the KFIT Project: ICT in Education in Africa by which UNESCO is supporting the Government to enhance the capacity of teachers across the country to effectively facilitate teaching and learning during crises period.

## Launch of \$1 million OneTreePlanted programme to restore the Black Volta Landscape.

The UNDP launched a one-million-dollar 'OneTreePlanted' programme to plant five million trees by 2024 to restore degraded areas in the Black Volta landscape. The programme was launched under the UNDP Global Environment Facility Small Grant Programme (GEF/SGP) at Maluwe in the Savannah region of Ghana. The 'OneTreePlanted' programme will enhance capacity and supply various seedlings including Cassia, Mahogany, Cashew, and Mango to selected communities in the Black Volta landscape for planting. The aim is to fight environmental degradation and promote sustainable livelihood enterprises in the landscape. [Read more.](#)



UNDP Resident Representative in Ghana, Angela Lusigi, and the Chief of Maluwe, Sulemana Bramani planting a tree to launch the OneTreePlanted programme. ©UNDP

## Migrant farmers trained in producing chemical-free plant protection

In October, IOM trained 60 farmers, including 24 migrant farmers, in three communities in the Ashanti, Bono and Bono East regions in the production of organic fertilizer, pesticides, and herbicides.

Participants also learnt about methods to market organic farm produce locally, preservation of the environment, and the necessity of maintaining soil fertility for sustainable agriculture. Farmers of previous trainings reported good progress of their businesses following the training. The training is part of the Green Livelihood Agriculture Development project which aims to train returnee farmers in environmentally friendly agricultural practices in support of tackling climate change challenges. This project is funded by the European Union under the "Individual Measure for the EU-IOM Joint Initiative in Sub-Saharan Africa" project.



Some of the farmers in the field; ©IOM

## Bringing life back to nature and people

The world's forests continue to decline at an alarming rate and Ghana is no exception. The Global Forest Watch estimated that, from 2001 to 2021, Ghana lost 1.41Mha of tree cover. Restoring lost forests requires actions at all levels. Adwoa Adomaa is one of the oldest farmers in Anwianwia, a village located in the Ahafo Region of Ghana. She is a beneficiary of a forest restoration project supported by the UNDP in partnership with COCOBOD, Forestry Commission, and Mondelēz International's cocoa sustainability programme: Cocoa Life. The project is restoring degraded portions of the Ayum Forest Reserve to help combat climate change and prevent biodiversity loss in Ghana. [Read more.](#)

## It's about ability. Celebrating children with disabilities through sports for inclusion

As part of the pre-events celebrating World Children's Day (20 November) in Ghana, UNICEF supported the Organization of Special Olympics National Advancement Games for Schools for learners with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and organized a Unified Football for Inclusion tournament which included the Ghana Football Association President and representative from the Minister for Youth and Sports.

For the first time ever, UNICEF in partnership with the Ministry of Education, the Ghana Education Service (GES), and the Ministry of Youth and Sports, with funding from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs contributed to this year's Special Olympics as a side event to celebrate World Children's Day – the theme of which was inclusion and non-discrimination. The competition of different games took place from 6 to 8 October in Takoradi, with the participation of 36 special schools and Units from the previous ten (10) regions of Ghana. Mme Cynthia Wise, program officer of physical education and sports unit at GES said 'Sports like this makes the community see [these learners] are regular, they can also do something for themselves... Then people that have such children with special needs won't keep them at home under lock and key. They will bring them to school so that whatever they have, and their talent would be developed so that the children benefit from it.' The advanced games aimed at selecting young athletes and partners to represent Ghana on the international stage in Berlin, Germany from 17 – 25 June 2023.

Following the Special Olympic games, UNICEF organized with the same partners a Unified Football for Inclusion tournament at the Akropong School for the Blind from 13 to 14 October. The two-day event presented an excellent opportunity to celebrate children of all abilities and to convey

positive messages about non-discrimination and inclusion for every child.

The tournament has been an occasion to capitalize on interest in the Football World Cup (the start date of which coincided with World Children's Day) and to positively position equality and inclusion for every child through football. The two-day event gathered 10 teams (5 girls and 5 boys) and 140 players with hearing and visual impairment and, 1000+ spectators. Personalities such as Kurt Edwin Simeon-Okraaku (President of Ghana Football Association); Gary Al Smith (Sports journalist and UNICEF influencer) expressed their willingness to advocate for more inclusion and equity for boys and girls living with disabilities. Indeed, the GFA president said, 'Disability is not inability.' UNICEF used the occasion to advocate for the rights of children living with disabilities and promote inclusion and equity for every child. 'I'm very glad to be here to witness the various games. This really shows that there is no discrimination nor people looking down on us but we are included in society.' said Enoch Tudzi, School Prefect at the Akropong School for the Blind.



A student soccer player exhibits her skills on the field during the tournament; ©UNICEF

## YoLe Fellows experience UNESCO World Heritage Site



Group picture of the UNFPA YoLe Fellows at Kakum National Park; ©UNESCO

Riding on the existing partnership between UNESCO and the UNFPA Ghana Youth Leaders Fellows, UNESCO Ghana, with support from Ghana Museum and Monuments Board, facilitated an

educational tour of some of the forts and castles in the Central Region and the Kakum National Park. The 4th Cohort of the YoLe Fellows visited Fort Amsterdam, Fort William, Elmina, Cape Coast Castle, and lastly

the Kakum National Park. The purpose of this tour was to promote awareness among young people of the importance of World Heritage and of the World Heritage Convention, to imbibe in young people a

sense of ownership and future stewardship for the sustainable management of World Heritage Sites. The educational tour is part of a series of activities to engage young people in UNESCO's area of expertise.

## UN supports the World Music Festival of Women from Here and Elsewhere

“World Music Festival of Women from Here and Elsewhere” of a pan-African nature is a festival that aims to promote female talent, celebrate artistic and cultural

traditions, encourage an exchange of ideas in a festive and friendly atmosphere, and address some of the challenges and gaps on gender equality. Held in Montreal, Canada, the

13th edition, the first to take place outside Accra, Ghana from 16 to 20 November.

Participants came from over 20 African

countries.

The creative economy is one of the world's most rapidly growing sectors and currently contributes to 3% of the global GDP.

**WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL - Cont. on pg. 27**

## World Conference on Education and Restitution

The Association of African Universities (AAU), the Pan African Heritage World (PAHW), and UNESCO convened the “World Conference on Education and Restitution”. The 3-day hybrid event was hosted at the Secretariat of the Association of African Universities in Accra, with participants from Africa, Europe, and the Americas, including scholars, artists, decision-makers, traditional leaders and

civil society organisations.

The summit centred on the main theme “Past, the Present and the Future – Afrofuturism and African Development”. The aim was to reclaim and recontextualize African education, technology, politics, languages, histories, arts, culture, music, and spirituality toward a conscious effort of the unification and rapid development of Africa. The conference allowed for

contributions to be made by notable speakers from different parts of Africa and across the diaspora, including the Ambassador of Ghana to Brazil, H.E. Prof. Abena Busia, founder of the Pan African Heritage World Museum, Hon. Kojo Yankah, and Secretary General of the Association of African Universities, Prof. Olusola Bandele Oyewole. Each session was followed by fruitful discussions.

### W/AFRICA CONNECT –Cont. from pg. 10

ICT SMEs from the region, over 20 regional and international buyers, 25 high-level speakers and many other institutions. With the technical support of UNIDO and the International Trade Center, approximately 150 B2B meetings were

conducted during the two-day event, both on-site and virtually through a sophisticated digital matchmaking platform.

It is now expected that these interactions will lead to the establishment of new and durable business partnerships,

increased commercial transactions between mango, cassava and ICT actors, and the identification of potential investors to ensure the inclusive and sustainable development of these priority value chains.

## Change of leadership at IOM Ghana

We recently said goodbye to Abibatou Wane, Chief of Mission at IOM Ghana, Togo and Benin since 2020. Without doubt, she will be remembered for her leadership, professionalism, and inspiration as well as for her warmth and smile.

We are happy to welcome Fatou Diallo Ndiaye. She has been with IOM for the past 22 years and has been Head of

Office/Chief of Mission since 2011 in Senegal, Niger, Guinea (Conakry) and Liberia/Sierra Leone, and most recently Norway.

Her leadership, cooperation with Member States, donors and close collaboration with the United Nations System has been commendable as she has helped position IOM within the UN by ensuring commitment to the Delivering as One approach.

and by integrating human mobility into the programmatic vision at the UN Country Team level in her former positions. She strongly believes in collaboration and has vast experiences in joint initiatives as well as multi-agency, multi-partner, and multi-country programming which are key for the United Nations and important for migration management due to its transversality.

## World Mental Health Day marked in Ghana

In October in Sagnarigu, Northern Region, the IOM, in collaboration with Basic Needs Ghana, the Ghana Psychological Association, the Paramount Chief of the Sagnarigu Traditional Area and returned migrants, marked World Mental Health Day with a series of community interventions bringing together migrants, government officials and traditional leaders, self-help group members, returnees, community members, the youth, and migration stakeholders to reflect on this year's global theme – "Making Mental Health and Well-being for All A Global Priority". It was an occasion to discuss related topics such as safe migration, irregular migration, stigmatization, reintegration, mental health, and wellbeing. Read ahead.



## UN in Ghana goes pink

During the month of October, UN in Ghana staff were challenged to join in the awareness raising efforts on breast cancer by wearing pink throughout the month. To conclude Breast Cancer Awareness Month, IOM Ghana staff refreshed their knowledge about breast cancer and were reminded on how to do Breast Self-Examination (BSE). "Doing regular BSE helps detect breast cancer early when it is easier to treat," Dr. Eric Agyemfra, IOM's Migration Health Physician, told staff.

In partnership with the UN in Ghana and supported by the UN Information Centre, Accra, the 4th Cohort of UNFPA's Young Leaders Fellows (YoLe) organized free breast screening exercise dubbed "Breat4Rest". The event was also to coincide with UN Day celebrations launched on 24 October. Over 50 staff members had their breast screened. Medical practitioners and a survivor of 5 years, Georgina Dzagrah addressed the gathering at the opening ceremony. Georgina shared her personal experience from detection to healing.

[L] A cross section of the audience at the World Mental Health Day event in Northern region; [Below] IOM staff boldly pledging their support for Breast Cancer Awareness campaign; ©IOM



## UN DAY COMMEMORATION IN GHANA

The commemoration of UN Day in Ghana is an annual tradition, marked with a number of activities including media engagement, Model UN, symposium and a flag-raising ceremony, led by the Government, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Regional Integration, Ghana.

The 77th UN Day flag-raising ceremony took place at the forecourt of the Ministry

of Foreign Affairs in Accra, representing the strong relationship between Ghana and the UN. In attendance were members of the diplomatic corps, Heads of the national security services, students, Heads of UN agencies and staff of the Ministry and of the UN and relevant stakeholders.

The audience was addressed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, Hon.

Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey and the UN Resident Coordinator for Ghana, Charles Abani.

The UN in Ghana hosted an evening reception to climax the celebrations. Key partners including representatives of the Government of Ghana, the private sector, diplomatic community, NGOs and CSO attended the reception to celebrate the achievements of the UN.



[ABOVE-L] Ghana's Foreign Affairs Minister, Hon. Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey addressing the audience at the flag-raising ceremony; [R] UN RC, Mr. Charles Abani (m) with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Thomas Mbomba; [BELOW-L] Staff of UN in a group picture after health walk; [R] Performance by YoLe Fellows at the reception; ©UN Ghana



## UN supports NADMO in Public Sensitization on Earthquake DRR.

The International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) was commemorated in Accra on the theme: "Earthquake disaster risk reduction through effective early warning". The event was organized by NADMO with support from UNESCO and WFP to discuss ways to mitigate the impact of natural disasters in the country.

The UNESCO Representative and WFP Representative, Ms. Barbara Clemens presented educational materials and a video animation on earthquake disaster risk reduction to NADMO for public sensitization; a timely intervention given the recent earth tremor experienced in Accra.



UNESCO Ghana and WFP Ghana Representatives make a joint donation to NADMO; ©UNESCO

## International Day for Universal Access to Information observed

Over 500 stakeholders gathered to mark this year's International Day for Universal Access to Information in Accra to underpin the relevance of information in development, governance, and equality. Present were public sector stakeholders, civil society organizations, media and communication training institutions, and media organizations, among others.

The theme for this year is dubbed "Artificial Intelligence, e-Governance, and Access to Information".

The UN in Ghana has undertaken a number of interventions aligned to the theme of this year's celebration. These include interventions on assessing the prominence and accessibility of the internet in Ghana, using UNESCO's internet Universality Indicators, and on safeguarding the rights of users and beneficiaries of AI for which UNESCO is assisting Ghana, among other countries, to develop an ethical framework for the use of AI in consultation with the Ghana Data Protection Commission, Ministry of Communication and Digitalization, and other important stakeholders within the digital space.

## 2022 National Education Week celebration

The Ministry of Education with support from UNESCO and other partners held a 5-day conference on "Re-Assessing Educational Policies for Effective Service Delivery and National Transformation". Participants, mainly stakeholders in the educational sector, reviewed the sector's performance over the past medium-term; reviewed the implementation of policies and key programmes in the sector; deliberated on how the sector can use evidence-based policies and programmes to improve learning outcomes and management of education, and; made recommendations on best practices and new approaches to be adopted by the Ministry.

Mr. Diallo Abdourahamane, the UNESCO Ghana representative read a statement on behalf of development partners and assured the Government of the DPs commitment to continue to support the country to work towards achieving SDG4. The NEW ended with an Aide Memoire which consists of the key priority actions that were agreed upon by the Government, DPs and CSOs.

Meanwhile, the UN has supported the National Teaching Council (NTC) to organize a 2-day symposium for teachers to discuss the key issues affecting teachers and the teaching profession in the country. The symposium was part of the 2022 World Teachers Day (WTD) and the 2022 Ghana Teacher Prize (GTP) national event which was organized in Tamale. This year's WTD was celebrated under the theme "The transformation of education begins with teachers" to reiterate the central role of teachers in transforming education systems. The commemoration also

focused on the support that teachers need to fully contribute to transforming education. The symposium brought together over three hundred participants from across the education sector. These include teachers, head teachers, Directors of Education, Heads of Agencies, researchers and academia, the corporate and private sector and development partners. It created opportunity for the GTP awardees (comprising teachers and non-teaching staff) to showcase their achievements to participants from across the country.



Group photograph of stakeholders in the education sector during the NEW celebration; ©UNESCO

### **WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL - Cont. from pg. 22**

At the heart of this dynamic economy are the cultural and creative industries, which stand at the crossroad of arts, culture, commerce, and technology. The creative industries take up many different forms in Ghana, including advertising, architecture, arts and crafts, design, fashion, film, video, photography, music, performing arts, publishing, research & development, software, computer games, electronic publishing, and TV/

radio. The sector generates over 2 billion USD annually and provides more jobs to workers aged 18-25 than any other field of employment. Today, creativity is increasingly recognized as a renewable, omnipresent resource for sustainable, human-centric development.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### December 2022

Diaspora Dialogue on "Migration for the Benefit of All" in observance of [International Migrants Day](#) ; 16 December; Accra International Conference Centre.



[Arabic Language Day](#). (18 December)

End of Year Exhibition and Market Day of Refugee Products. Read more about "[Crafted by Refugees: MADES51](#)"; 21 December; Blue Oasis Community Centre, Accra.



[International Day of Epidemic Preparedness](#). (27 December)

### January 2023

[World Braille Day](#) (4 January)

[International Day of Education](#) (24 January)

[International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust](#) (27 January)

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