



# ▶ Elizka Relief Foundation



# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Elizka Relief Foundation is a non-governmental organization legally registered and based in Ghana with a thematic scope of *capacity building* and *human empowerment*.

The core principle of the organization is promotion of Human Rights – “*the right to development and leaving no one behind*” – with its priority areas being Agriculture for Development (A4D), Information Communication for Development (ICT4D), and Research for Development (R4D), and Community Development.

The areas of special interest to the organization are i) Education (ii) Health (iii) Climate Change (iv) Arts (Youth and Culture), (v) Cultural Diversity (Exchange Programs), (vi) Child Survival and Development, (vii) Water and Sanitation (viii) Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (ix) Rural Infrastructure Development, (x) Women in Development and (xi) Food security.

Elizka Relief Foundation currently has Special Consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC) – [www.un.org/ecosoc/en/home](http://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/home), and Observer Status with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – [www.unfccc.int](http://www.unfccc.int).

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Statement of the organization is seeking to purposefully create and manage opportunities for connection and communication across sectorial, identity and geographical boundaries to promote social and sustainable integrated development by enhancing capacity to network.

## VISION

Central to our activities is the epoch when civil society organizations and popular networks are sufficiently empowered- economically, materially, politically, culturally, socially and technologically - to take greater control of and determine confidently the direction and scope of their own development.

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The general aim of the organization is to promote sustainable and social integrated development by assisting and advising community development practitioners, voluntary groups and communities in need, popular networks, and individuals seeking for social and sustainable development, to identify, mobilize and gain access to right sources of resources to enable them access and benefit from good education, health, environment, vocational training, credit, microfinance, cultural diversity and charitable support toward the development of a better world.

In pursuit of its mission, vision and aims, Elizka Relief Foundation has the following functions: –

### ***Coordination:***

In a proactive manner; define and articulate a Pan-African position on key strategic and global sustainable development issues to:

- ✚ advocate for Africa at global meetings pertaining to sustainable development and coordinate and harmonize policies and programs in Africa with relation to sustainable development

- ✦ forge linkages between African civil society organizations, institutions and organizations across the globe
- ✦ develop mechanisms to deal with Africa's sustainable development problems and
- ✦ monitor and evaluate the impact of sustainable development research at the African regional level.

***Advocacy and Resource mobilization:***

- ✦ Coordinate donor efforts and inputs in Africa's sustainable development research activities through identification and interaction with key players in the donor community and their programs, and to grant conditions through the development of strategies for effectively and efficiently dealing with these key players
- ✦ Advocacy of African needs and aspirations at international meetings
- ✦ Liaise with advocacy groups and research institutions in developed countries that conduct research to solve problems in Africa
- ✦ Build coalitions with key stakeholders and advocacy groups on Africa's sustainable development activities and
- ✦ Pro-actively identify issues likely to affect Africa's sustainable development and develop strategies or mobilize capacity to deal with them.

**Promote exchange of information** technology and human resources at the Pan-Africa Level through the following:

- ✦ Promote awareness of regional and global issues such as genetically modified foods, intellectual property rights, globalization, available technologies, human rights, education, health, etc.
- ✦ Document for use in advocacy functions, sustainable development issues, processes and its significance in Africa and
- ✦ Document and disseminate "best practices" in sustainable development issues.

**Messages**

We are very much grateful for your interest and concern in and about Elizka Relief Foundation. Elizka is growing with confidence through aligning itself with seasoned experts and reputable organizations in the CSOs sector. The organization seeks sustainable solutions to long-term issues pertaining to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through an integrated, community-based, and participatory approach that reinforces Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS) as well as government initiative.

Through an array of empowering / capacity building measures, it has worked to open opportunities for humanity and improve their living conditions. At present; the organization being represented by its President and Chief Executive Officer – Kofi Kankam – serves as the co-chair of the Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and Other Stakeholders under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission of Africa (UNECA) – <https://www.uneca.org/stories/africa-regional-mechanism-major-groups-and-other-stakeholders-launched-victoria-falls>, and West Africa Regional Organizing Partner for United Nations NGO Major Group – [www.ngomg.org/http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/majorgroups/ngos](http://www.ngomg.org/http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/majorgroups/ngos).

The organization further represents the mechanism at the High-Level Political Forum Coordination Mechanism.

Moreover, its president and chief executive officer currently serves as the Africa Regional Focal Point for Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD), convener for the Ghana CSOs SDGs Platform – <http://ghanacsoplatformsdg.org/conveners-and-co-conveners/> - for the Kumasi Metropolis and National Focal Point (Ghana) - for Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR).

Elizka Special Consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC) – [www.un.org/ecosoc/en/home](http://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/home), and Observer Status with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – [www.unfccc.int](http://www.unfccc.int), United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), United Nations of Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Global Climate Fund (GCF), Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) – [www.opwc.org](http://www.opwc.org) and . The organization currently serves as the co-chair of the Africa Regional Mechanism of Major Groups and other Stakeholders and Africa Regional Focal Point for Action for Sustainable Development (HLPF \_ Coordination Mechanism).

Moreover, it is accredited to the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs (VNOC), Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR), the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons (ICAN) and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

The organization perceives real development as impossible without consideration of the environment and without taking into account local social and cultural values, and enabling stakeholder participation.

In lieu of this, we ensure to work towards the direction of the five agreements which were made during the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. Our overall sustainable development programme optimizes the realization of the society's many and different social, environmental and economic objectives at one and the same time through an adaptive process of integration, whilst striking bargains (trade-offs) among the different interest groups concerned.

In a proactive manner; the organization has been defining and articulating a Pan-African position on key strategic and global sustainable development issues, coordinating donor efforts and inputs in Africa's sustainable development research activities through identification and interaction with key players in the donor community and their programs, and creating conditions through the development of strategies for effectively and efficiently dealing with these key players.

Elizka over the last few years has established itself as an organization committed towards socio-economic development through the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and

Agenda 2063. The organization has worked with multiple stakeholders - Intergovernmental bodies, Governmental bodies, Media, Private Sector, International and National Non-Governmental Organizations, Multilateral Organizations - to create a platform and an understanding towards the attainment of these global goals.

Taking impetus from its previous works, Elizka during these periods articulated and highlighted issues of sustainable development both at the local and international levels.

To ensure opportunities of partnership, it was necessary to work with the private sector. We therefore led consultations with the private sector which made it possible for us to highlight a few issues at the local level.

### Message from the President and Chief Executive Officer

As we close the chapter on 2024, I am filled with immense gratitude and deep reflection on the remarkable journey we have undertaken together at Elizka Relief Foundation. This year has been one of profound impact, growth, and resilience. It has reaffirmed our purpose to champion the voices of the most vulnerable and to build a more inclusive, just, and equitable society.

The world around us continues to present formidable challenges, from armed conflicts and climate shocks across Africa to structural inequalities that still hinder the full realization of human rights. Yet, in the midst of these adversities, Elizka has stood firm active, vocal, and solution-oriented. In 2024, we reached new heights in our advocacy at the national and international levels. Our consistent contributions to the United Nations Human Rights Council and strategic engagements with global and local partners have helped place critical issues from disability inclusion and indigenous rights to climate displacement and youth empowerment at the forefront of policy discussions. We were able to make significant Written and Oral submissions at the United Nations General Assembly Human Rights Council sessions in Geneva.

One of the most significant milestones this year was our active participation in the United Nations High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development. Representing civil society voices from Ghana and beyond, we contributed meaningfully to discussions on accelerating progress toward the SDGs, particularly in the areas of poverty reduction, inclusive education, and climate justice. This global platform allowed us to share grassroots realities, promote policy solutions, and network with change makers committed to building a fairer world.

Back home, one of the year's most fulfilling milestones was our leading role in Ghana's 2024 International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) celebration. Together with our partners, we helped bring the conversation on accessible and inclusive elections to national attention, ensuring that the rights of persons with disabilities are respected and prioritized in democratic processes.

We also took significant strides in capacity building through our participation in the Multidimensional Poverty Index and Stats Bank training organized by the Ghana Statistical Service. By equipping ourselves and our civil society peers with the tools to analyze and respond to poverty through evidence-based advocacy, we are building a future where development decisions are both inclusive and data-driven.

I am especially proud of our work within the Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs supporting leadership transitions, facilitating grassroots engagement, and driving accountability through participatory budget processes.

These have been significant year, as our cost-effective strategies were well-suited to our objectives, and I hope that our work will continue to attract bilateral, multilateral, intergovernmental, and the private sector to cooperate with us in the same manner. The period also proved crucial in bringing together the focus of multi-stakeholders on the issues pertaining to SDGs on the Africa continent.

We subsequently concluded to deal more intensively with the basic needs of the vulnerable communities and were predominantly concerned with the question of what is needed to improve the quality of life of the rural communes.

We are now pursuing this goal in a variety of ways. We subdivided our projects into two different project groups: Education, Climate Change – Water and Sanitation, Agriculture and Health.

It is extremely important to us to realize projects in harmony with the customs, religion and ideas of the local population, because our preferred mantra and credo remains one of sustainability. Although this fashionable term has already been embraced by many, and for a thousand times, few people are conscious of how sustainability describes a concrete principle for action in the efficient use of resources. Sustainable development is, however, only possible if all parties involved work closely together and have the same goal in mind. This leads me to another important point: our team. Large goals can only be achieved together, which is why I am convinced that networking is indispensable.

This includes not only all contacts established virtually and face-to-face. We have already set up respectable teams in order to implement challenging and extensive projects with these outstanding and loyal co-workers. In order to be able to meet the basic needs of the local population, the following questions arise: How can we solve water problems during times of drought? How can farmers be aided to multiply their crop yields? How can farmers be convinced to use compost as a fertilizer rather than a chemical compound? Careful handlings of fertilizer and insect repellents, as well as alternative soil treatment methods, are important to ensure that human health is not jeopardized. This is especially true for vegetables, fruit and herbs. Another question is: How can we advance into remote areas of in order to guarantee a basic education there? In seeking the answer, it is only through a concerted intra-continental coalition of all stakeholders can address issues of below-average life expectancy, educational inequality, above-average illiteracy rates, etc. I would like to draw the attention of all to certain things which, in my view, are mission critical for delivering sustainable development: we at Elizka want to motivate the local population to actively participate in the design of our projects and to create a future that can make everyone happy in the long term.

## **INTRODUCTION**

In developing the 2024 Annual Reports, we reflected on a previous year that was like no other. This report therefore highlights, not just the organization's achievements but our experience navigating troubled waters. Elizka Relief Foundation undertook several activities during the year under review

and most of these activities were done in collaboration with the Ghana Civil Society Platform on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) hosted by SEND Ghana and mainly sponsored by GIZ. Our story is like a puzzle with four interconnected pieces:

***We are In It Together*** - that was the realization we came to as an organization, alongside our partners, funders, the communities we serve and indeed the whole of humanity

***Collaboration*** - is not only inevitable but is invaluable when you find yourselves in the same boat.

***Building Resilience*** - the world has changed and we must change with it, if we are to build back better; so we built systems for the future.

***Celebrating our Wins*** - there were wins; those bright spots in difficult years; those achievements that kept us going; the results of the collective efforts of many and we celebrate them.

The year 2024 gave us the opportunity to demonstrate the power and potential of evidence as a driver of change. Never has there been a more opportune time for the organization to establish the power and value of African experts leading conversations about change in Africa.

We hope you enjoy reading about our journey in 2024.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

### REGIONAL AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENTS

#### A. Elizka Relief Foundation's activities in the field of International Human Rights

In the year under review, Elizka made significant Written and Oral submissions at the United Nations General Assembly Human Rights Council sessions in Geneva with its focus mainly in Africa. In its participation in the Human Right Council, Elizka seeks to contribute to addressing violations of human rights, including gross and systematic violation, the promotion of respect for human rights for all, and effective coordination and mainstreaming of human rights within the UN system.

Below is the extensive report of Elizka's activities in the field of International Human Rights;

#### Elizka Relief Foundation's activities **during 2024** in the field of International Human Rights Mechanisms

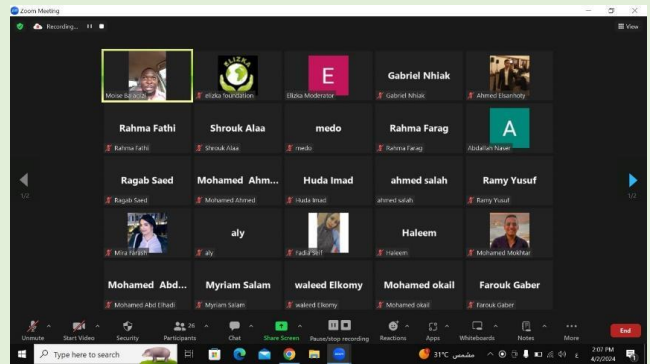
##### ➤ First: Human Rights Council

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
<b>January 2024</b>				
1.	<p><b>Submission on "Laws, legislation, policies, constitutions, judicial decisions, and other mechanisms through which States have taken measures to achieve the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in accordance with Article 38 of the "Declaration</b></p> <p>--</p> <p><b>Submitted to the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</b></p>	<p>Highlighting the reality of marginalization and discrimination faced by indigenous peoples in some African communities, identifying the legislative and constitutional frameworks that represent or fail to represent indigenous peoples in Kenya and Ethiopia, and documenting a range of human rights violations faced by indigenous peoples in Kenya and Ethiopia.</p>	<p><b>Kenya and Ethiopia</b></p>	<p>Highlighting the human rights violations committed by the Ethiopian government against indigenous groups, particularly forced displacement, and highlighting the weakness of the legislative frameworks in Kenya and Ethiopia regarding their management of indigenous peoples.</p> <p>--</p> <p>A/HRC/57/62</p> <p><sup>74</sup> Submission from <b>Elizka Relief Foundation</b>.</p>
<b>February 2024</b>				
2.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Armed conflict and its impact on human rights in Sudan</p> <p>--</p>	<p>Elizka examines the humanitarian impact of the armed conflict that has been raging in Sudan since mid-April 2023, including mass killings,</p>	<p><b>Sudan</b></p>	<p>Highlighting human rights violations committed in Sudan by the Rapid Support Forces</p>

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	Human Rights Council – 55 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 2	food security, health, gender-based violence, forced displacement, and education. She concludes with a set of recommendations to help end the ongoing war between the two sides and limit the proliferation of weapons in Sudan.		
3.	<b>Written Statement</b> on Human rights situation in Eritrea  --  Human Rights Council – 55 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 2	Elizka discusses the human rights situation in Eritrea, focusing on economic, social, and cultural rights, including the right to work, health, education, and women's rights. She concludes with a set of recommendations to protect these rights and reduce their violations.	<b>Eritrea</b>	Highlighting human rights violations committed in Eritrea
4.	<b>Written Statement</b> on Freedom of religion and belief in Ethiopia  --  Human Rights Council – 55 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 3	The Statement addressed aspects of violations of freedom of religion and belief in Ethiopia, including the demolition of places of worship, the persecution of religious	<b>Ethiopia</b>	Focus on violations committed in Ethiopia regarding freedom of religion or belief

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
		<p>leaders, violations of the right to peaceful assembly, and the flight of Muslims in fear of persecution to neighboring African countries such as Egypt, Kenya, and Somalia.</p>		
5.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Armed groups and their impact on human rights in South Sudan</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 55<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 10</p>	<p>The Statement aims to address the impact of armed group violence on the human rights situation in South Sudan, including the rights to life, food, and health, as well as violations of forced displacement and abuses against women and aid workers. It concludes with a set of recommendations aimed at improving the conditions of civilians in the country and reducing violent crimes.</p>	<b>South Sudan</b>	<p>Highlighting human rights violations in South Sudan as a result of armed conflict</p>
6.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Violations by armed movements in the Democratic</p>	<p>Elizka submits a written statement to the Office of the High Com-</p>	<b>The Democratic Republic of the Congo</b>	<p>Focus on violations by armed groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo of the rights to life, housing and movement</p>

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	Republic of the Congo  --  Human Rights Council – 55 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 10	missioner for Human Rights and the Group of International Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, outlining violations by armed groups in the DRC of the rights to life, housing, and movement, as well as violations of gender-based violence, and then presents a set of recommendations.		
<b>April 2024</b>				
7.	<b>Side Event entitled</b> “The Impact of Armed Groups on Human Rights in Africa,” on April 2, 2024  --  Human Rights Council – 55 <sup>th</sup> Session	Elizka held the event during the 55th session to highlight the crimes committed by armed groups in East and Central Africa, particularly in Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Central African Republic, and to discuss their role in fueling human rights violations in these countries. The event focused on	<b>Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Central African Republic</b>	Exposing human rights violations and crimes in Chad, denouncing the continuation of terrorist operations and the spread of armed groups in light of the failure of the governments of Chad and the Central African Republic, and denouncing the crimes of armed rebel groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and their impact on the state of peace and security in Africa.



*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
		<p>four main themes: (1) A discussion of the impact of armed groups on the human rights situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. (2) An overview of the negative impact of armed groups on the human rights environment in Chad and the Central African Republic. (3) The relationship between the fragility of African legal structures and the expansion of armed groups within the continent. (4) An overview of women and youth as some of the groups most affected by human rights violations by armed groups within Africa.</p>		
<b>June 2024</b>				
8.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Update on the human rights situation in Sudan</p>	<p>Elizka presented its statement on the latest developments in the human rights situation in Sudan,</p>	<p><b>Sudan</b></p>	<p>Highlighting human rights violations committed in Sudan by the Rapid Support Forces</p>

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	<p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 56<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 2</p>	<p>focusing in particular on the human rights violations committed by the parties to the conflict in Sudan against civilians since the outbreak of the armed conflict on April 25, 2023, and the current situation, in addition to focusing on the internally displaced persons crisis, which is considered the largest internal displacement crisis in the world at the present time.</p>		
9.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Judicial Independence in the Face of Contemporary Challenges to Democracy</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 56<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 3</p>	<p>The statement focuses particularly on the role of the judiciary in protecting democracy and the rule of law, the role they can play, and the risks and threats facing members of the judiciary, particularly independent judges, in a number of countries.</p>	<p><b>Lebanon, Ethiopia, Azerbaijan, Iran, United States</b></p>	<p>Highlighting the challenges and achievements facing the judiciary in many countries</p>
10.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Eradicating Poverty in the Post-Growth Era: Preparing for the Next</p>	<p>This statement focuses on the relationship between economic growth and poverty eradication, progress towards implementing</p>	<p><b>United States, Ethiopia</b></p>	<p>Highlighting the issues of poverty and sustainable development and some practices within countries</p>

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	Development Goals -- Human Rights Council – 56 <sup>th</sup> Session Item 3	SDG Target 10.1, external debt and its impact on economic growth in developing and least developed countries, and issues that need to be considered in future development goals.		
11.	<b>Written Statement</b> on The relationship between climate change and internal displacement -- Human Rights Council – 56 <sup>th</sup> Session Item 3	Elizka presents this statement on the relationship between climate change and internal displacement, as climate change forces millions of people around the world to undergo large-scale displacement from vulnerable areas to more viable locations, both within their countries and abroad.	<b>Pakistan, Philippines, Somalia, Iraq</b>	Highlighting environmental disasters and climate change within countries and the practices of some governments in reducing the phenomenon of displacement
12.	<b>Written Statement</b> on New forms of Nazism and neo-Nazis -- Human Rights Council – 56 <sup>th</sup> Session Item 9	Elizka presents a statement in light of the rise of neo-Nazism and neo-Nazis, particularly in European countries and the United States. In this intervention, Elizka attempts to clarify the scope of this phenomenon and its impact on immigrant communities and minorities in the countries where it is	<b>United States, Hungary, Germany, Italy, Brazil</b>	Focusing on the relationship between Nazism, xenophobia and racism, and highlighting the violations committed by states in this regard.

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
		present, as ethnic nationalist and racist movements continue to grow worldwide, particularly in European countries.		
13.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on Interactive Dialogue on the Oral Update of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Sudan</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 56<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 2</p>	<p>Elizka participated in an interactive dialogue with the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Sudan, which highlighted violations by the Rapid Support Forces in Sudan. The Fact-Finding Mission recommended that Sudan cooperate with the High Commissioner to track and document the external support provided to Rapid Support Forces leaders, with a view to ultimately holding those responsible accountable.</p>	<b>Sudan</b>	Highlighting human rights violations committed in Sudan by the Rapid Support Forces
14.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on Interactive dialogue on the High Commissioner's annual report</p> <p>--</p>	<p>Elizka's oral statement condemned the human rights violations witnessed by civilians in the Amhara region of Ethiopia, represented by the ongoing conflict between the government and the</p>	<b>Ethiopia</b>	Focus on violations committed in the Amhara region of Ethiopia in the context of armed conflict

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	Human Rights Council – 56 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 2	Fano Amhara militia, which has now included civilians, within the context of the expanding circle of extrajudicial killings and airstrikes. Elizka recommended that the High Commissioner continue its efforts to develop social protection programs for civilians affected by the conflict in the Amhara region, and to initiate a constructive dialogue with Amhara ethnic leaders with the aim of ending the conflict and limiting the cycle of losses.		
15.	<b>Oral Statement</b> on Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons  --  Human Rights Council – 56 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 3	Elizka delivered an oral statement during the interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Internally Displaced Persons, pointing to the significant climate impacts that exacerbate internal displacement in Africa. Elizka recommended that the Special Rapporteur cooperate	<b>Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia</b>	Focus on human mobility resulting from climate shocks

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
		with the International Organization for Migration to facilitate human mobility and collaborate with governments on the continent to launch a protection program to provide life-saving assistance to displaced persons.		
16.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on New forms of Nazism and neo-Nazis</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 56<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 3</p>	<p>Elizka delivered an oral statement during the presentation of the report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty, focusing on the relationship between African countries' poverty and external debt.</p> <p>Elizka recommended that the Special Rapporteur issue recommendations to assist the continent's governments in developing and implementing sustainable and responsible borrowing policies, encourage creditors to implement debt-for-extreme-poverty swap programs, and establish an independ-</p>	<b>Africa</b>	Highlighting the relationship between external debt imposed on the African continent and extreme poverty

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
		ent, fair, and multilateral mechanism for external debt settlement.		
<b>May 2024</b>				
17.	<b>Report</b> on Justice, Accountability and Equity - Submitted to the Expert Mechanism to Promote Racial Justice and Equality in Law Enforcement	<p>The report focused on human rights violations resulting from a lack of accountability and redress, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The high rates of extrajudicial executions in Ethiopia, cases of rape and sexual violence during the Tigray war, and the widespread arrests of members of the Amhara ethnic group.</li> <li>- The high rates of murder and executions in Kenya, and cases of abuses recorded by local police against civilians.</li> <li>- A range of violations committed by the government of Chad, including killings, arrests, and arbitrary detention.</li> </ul>	<b>Ethiopia, Kenya, Chad</b>	Highlighting the widespread human rights violations committed by the Ethiopian government in the absence of accountability and justice, and in Chad, focusing on violations committed against civilians under the ruling regime.
<b>September 2024</b>				

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
18.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Update on the human rights situation in Sudan</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 57<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 2</p>	<p>The statement provides an update on the human rights situation in Sudan to the Independent Commission of Inquiry, highlights the reality of the human rights situation in the context of active war, and presents a series of recommendations to relevant parties and various stakeholders.</p>	<p><b>Sudan</b></p>	<p>Highlighting human rights violations committed in Sudan by the Rapid Support Forces</p>
19.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Water management for services and productive uses</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 57<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 3</p>	<p>The statement focuses on water management and its legal implications for service and production uses in Ethiopia and Sudan. The boundaries and dimensions of the relationship between water and the economy in Africa are monitored and analyzed. The statement concludes with a set of relevant recommendations, including a focus on the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam.</p>	<p><b>Ethiopia</b></p>	<p>Highlighting the damage and violations caused by the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam</p>
20.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on External interventions on human rights in</p>	<p>Elizka aims to identify the most prominent violations and verify the deliberate</p>	<p><b>Mali, Sudan, Niger, Libya</b></p>	<p>Highlighting violations committed as a result of armed conflicts in Africa</p>

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	<p>Africa in the context of military coups and armed conflicts</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 57<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 4</p>	<p>targeting of civilians and the denial of their rights by external parties through various means, ranging from killing, kidnapping, arbitrary detention, and sexual assault to the deliberate destruction and obstruction of any means that provide them with a dignified and humane livelihood. The conference will also present a set of recommendations that must be implemented by all concerned parties to improve the continent's future.</p>		
21.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Acts of intimidation and reprisals against human rights defenders cooperating with the United Nations</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 57<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 5</p>	<p>The statement reveals the increasing incidence of intimidation and reprisals against human rights defenders across Africa, highlighting them in the context of Ethiopia, Burundi, and Rwanda.</p>	<p><b>Ethiopia, Burundi, Rwanda</b></p>	<p>Exposing reprisals against UN collaborators and human rights defenders in several African countries</p>

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
22.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Human rights situation in Somalia</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 57<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 10</p>	<p>The statement focuses on the humanitarian situation caused by climate change, severe droughts, and floods, which have resulted in population displacement and malnutrition. This is in addition to the impact on their right to security due to the widespread terrorist activity witnessed in the country after the Somaliland region signed a memorandum of understanding with Ethiopia to recognize it as an independent state.</p>	<p><b>Somalia, Ethiopia</b></p>	<p>Focus on condemning violations committed by armed groups in Somaliland and the signing of a memorandum of understanding between Somaliland and Ethiopia.</p>
23.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on Enhanced Interactive Dialogue with the High Commissioner on the Human Rights Situation in Sudan</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 57<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 2</p>	<p>Elizka delivered an oral Statement during the enhanced interactive dialogue with the High Commissioner on the human rights situation in Sudan, highlighting the Rapid Support Forces' violations in Sudan, including the killing of civilians. Elizka called for intensified monitoring and documentation of hu-</p>	<p><b>Sudan</b></p>	<p>Highlighting human rights violations committed in Sudan by the Rapid Support Forces</p>

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
		<p>man rights violations to strengthen investigations, accountability, and redress for victims, as well as monitoring the growing needs of those trapped in El Fasher to support their humanitarian response.</p>		
24.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on Eritrea UPR Adoption</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 57<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 6</p>	<p>Elizka delivered an oral Statement during the adoption of the outcomes of Eritrea's Universal Periodic Review, recommending that the government reconsider its position on international human rights conventions, expand cooperation with relevant human rights procedures, particularly the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea and the Special Rapporteur on torture, and establish a national institution to promote human rights domestically.</p>	<p><b>Eritrea</b></p>	<p>The Statement was in an interview to evaluate Eritrea's human rights situation and its international obligations</p>
25.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on General</p>	<p>Elizka delivered an oral Statement</p>	<p><b>France, Germany,</b></p>	<p>Continued condemnation of violations committed by Western countries against people of African descent</p>

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	debate under item 8  --  Human Rights Council – 57 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 8	during the gen- eral debate under Item 8, condemn- ing the rise in xenophobia and racism in Euro- pean societies, with a focus on France, Germany, and the United Kingdom. Elizka recommended that the govern- ments of these countries launch a program to combat hate speech and rac- ism in local com- munities and in- clude stricter leg- islation targeting xenophobic crimes.	<b>the United Kingdom</b>	
26.	<b>Oral Statement</b> on Interactive dialogue on the oral update of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on technical assistance and capacity building for South Sudan  --  Human Rights Council – 57 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 10	Elizka delivered an oral Statement on technical as- sistance to South Sudan, highlight- ing South Sudan's weak national ca- pacity and its ina- bility to address security, political, and climate shocks. In this context, Elizka recommended that the High Commissioner, in collaboration with the Govern- ment of South Su- dan, establish a National Peace and Security	<b>South Sudan</b>	Focus on human rights violations in South Sudan and focus exclusively on climate crises and peace processes.

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
		Council to support local peace-building, and establish a UN Climate Action Co-ordination Committee.		
<b>November 2024</b>				
27.	<b>Oral Statement</b> in the 13th UN Business and Human Rights Forum from November 26 to November 28	Elizka participated in an oral statement in a session titled "Progress and Opportunities for Business and Human Rights in Africa," which addressed the violations faced by people in Southern Africa as a result of extractive industries, including forced displacement, destruction of natural habitats, and deteriorating living conditions.	<b>Africa</b>	Highlighting irresponsible corporate practices that contribute to human rights violations in Africa, particularly pollution, deforestation, ecosystem degradation, and biodiversity loss.

➤ **Second: Special procedures and other reports submitted to OHCHR and the Secretary-General**

*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
<b>January 2024</b>					
1.	<b>Report on</b> preserving gains and addressing emerging restrictions on the rights to	Special Rapporteur on the freedoms of peaceful assembly and of association	Highlighting the human rights crisis in Eritrea by identifying restrictions on the right to peaceful	<b>Eritrea</b>	Highlighting the Eritrean government's practices that are causing the human rights crisis within the country, highlighting the Eritrean government's role in deepening the human rights crisis within Eritrean society and

*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
	peaceful assembly and association		assembly and association, and highlighting violations of the right to peaceful assembly both inside and outside Eritrea, particularly the weak Eritrean human rights environment for the right to peaceful assembly.		exacerbating it beyond Eritrea's borders, and condemning the Eritrean government's continued targeting of human rights activists and all forms of peaceful assembly.
2.	<b>Report on</b> the visit to Chad	Working Group on Discrimination against Women and Girls	Highlighting the multiple forms of discrimination women and girls face in Chad, and revealing the impact of deep-rooted racial discrimination against women in Chadian society on achieving Sustainable Development Goal 5, which focuses on achieving equality and improving the status of women worldwide, particularly violations related to child marriage, female genital mutilation, and others.	<b>Chad</b>	Further documentation and communication with international mechanisms regarding the human rights situation in Chad.
3.	<b>Report on</b> the human rights situation of Africans and people of African descent in the Asia-Pacific region	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	It sheds light on the living conditions of people of African descent and the extent of the justice of the legal system under which they	<b>Yemen, Bahrain, Iraq, and Jordan</b>	Highlighting the exploitation of Africans in a number of countries of interest, including Yemen, Bahrain, Iraq, and Jordan.

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*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
			<p>live in Asian countries. It presents a statistical and evaluative reading of people of African descent within Asia in general, focusing on a number of West Asian countries, namely Syria, Jordan, Yemen, Iraq, and Bahrain, and presents its recommendations in this regard.</p>		
<b>March 2024</b>					
4.	<p><b>Report on Climate Justice Report: Loss and Damage</b></p>	<p>Special Rapporteur on development</p>	<p>Reviewing the negative impacts of climate change on citizens' enjoyment of their right to development within African countries.</p> <p>Highlighting the drought crisis, which has reached 100%, and its impact on increasing poverty rates, reaching 12th place on the global poverty list, and its role in reducing citizens' GDP.</p> <p>Explaining the role of climate change and drought in</p>	<p><b>Somalia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo</b></p>	

*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
			threatening agricultural and livestock activities in Somalia and causing widespread losses for citizens.		
5.	<b>Report on Gender and Toxicology Report</b>	Special Rapporteur on Toxics and Human Rights	<p>The report reviewed the hazardous waste crisis facing Kenya and Ethiopia as a result of the activity of the extractive industries and their unwise management within both countries.</p> <p>The report noted high levels of toxic substances in water, poisoning rates, miscarriages, and births with congenital disabilities in areas surrounding the mines in Ethiopia.</p> <p>The report noted high levels of radiation, the spread of toxins, and increased health risks from toxic substances in Niger.</p>	<b>Ethiopia and Kenya</b>	<p>Highlighting the focus of the Ethiopian government on supporting investments that are destructive to the environment and the health of Ethiopians, while ignoring their health rights.</p> <p>Highlighting the focus of the Nigerian government by pointing to its mismanagement of extractive industries, which has negatively impacted citizens' health.</p>
6.	<b>A Report on how climate change could affect the equal enjoyment of the right to</b>	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	For years, the world has recognized that Africa is the continent least involved in	<b>Somalia and Ethiopia</b>	Monitoring the crisis situation in Somalia and Ethiopia, and providing recommendations on ways to address the negative impacts of the climate crisis on girls' education in both countries.

*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
	education for every girl		<p>deepening the climate crisis, despite being the continent most affected by it. Women and girls in Africa are among the groups most directly affected by the climate crisis, as the climate crisis has created a fertile environment for the growth of many problems and vulnerabilities that have hindered school-age girls' ability to enjoy education. This highlights the importance of studying the negative impact of the climate crisis from a gender perspective, revealing the crises facing girls' education in Africa, which must be monitored and efforts made to address them.</p>		
7.	<p><b>Report</b> on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of Africans and people of African descent against</p>	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	<p>Highlighting the discrimination and racism faced by people of African descent in European and American countries. Reviewing the violations faced by people</p>	<p><b>United States of America - Austria - Finland - Germany - United Kingdom</b></p>	<p>Directing the attention of international mechanisms to the failure of foreign governments to fulfill their human rights obligations towards Black people, and working to combat the rising racism within societies.</p> <p>A/HRC/57/67</p>

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*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
	excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officials through transformative change for racial justice and equality		of African descent in European countries, such as threats, arrest, torture, and restrictions imposed on deportees from Britain; the crisis of harassment and police arrests of Black people in Germany and Austria; racist treatment and harassment in Finland; and medical negligence and racism in the healthcare sector against Black people in the United States.		<small><sup>41</sup> Submissions by the <b>Elizka Relief Foundation</b> and Southern Poverty Law Center. See also Committee on the Rights of the Child, <i>C.C.O.U., C.C.A.M. and A.C.C. v. Denmark</i> (CRUC94/D/145/2021); and communication GRC 2/2023.</small>
<b>April 2024</b>					
8.	<b>Report on</b> the identification, documentation, investigation, and prosecution of crimes of sexual torture committed during wars and armed conflicts, and the rehabilitation of victims and survivors	Special Rapporteur on torture	The report focused on documenting a wide range of sexual abuses committed by the Rapid Support Forces against women in Sudan. It highlighted the sexual slavery of women, the abduction and sale of women and adolescent boys by Rapid Support Forces militants, and cases of rape committed by the Rapid Support	<b>Rapid Support Forces in Sudan</b>	Highlighting the widespread violations committed by the Rapid Support Forces against women and girls in Sudan, including sexual crimes.  A/79/181  <small><sup>41</sup> Remarks of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Pramilla Patten, at the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly side-event "Preventing and addressing conflict-related sexual violence as a tool of war", co-hosted by the Office for Global Women's Issues, the Department of State of the United States, Search for Common Ground, Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security, 29 September 2021. See also submission of <b>Elizka Relief Foundation</b>, which assesses that recorded sexual assault accusations in Sudan constitute only three per cent of actual cases.</small>

*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
			Forces against women, particularly those of foreign and Arab ethnicities.		
9.	<b>Report on</b> Climate Change and Internal Displacement	Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons	As climate change causes more frequent and extreme weather events, more people are being displaced by floods, hurricanes, and droughts. But beyond the displacement directly caused by extreme weather, climate change amplifies the impact of other factors that can contribute to displacement, such as poverty, loss of livelihoods, and tensions related to dwindling resources, ultimately creating conditions that can lead to conflict and displacement.	<b>Ethiopia and Somalia</b>	Elizka has put a spotlight on Ethiopia and Somalia, where some of the worst violence and displacement in recent years has occurred in the poorest and most drought-affected areas. At the same time, the presence of violence and conflict can severely undermine governments' ability to respond to the impacts of climate change.
10.	<b>Intimidation and reprisals</b>	Secretary-General	The report focused on a range of intimidation and retaliatory practices carried out by African governments	<b>Ethiopia, Burundi, South Africa</b>	Highlighting the government's retaliatory practices and persecution of human rights defenders in Ethiopia

*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
			<p>against human rights defenders within the continent. It also highlighted a list of retaliatory practices such as travel bans, entry bans, denial of basic rights such as healthcare, detention, and torture in countries such as Ethiopia, South Africa, and Burundi.</p>		
<b>May 2024</b>					
11.	<p><b>Report on</b> the institutional arrangements of countries that enable minority rights to flourish</p>	<p>Special Rapporteur on minority issues</p>	<p>The report focused on examining the reality of the Ethiopian constitutional crisis, which demonstrates the contradiction between the federalism mandated by the constitution and the crisis that this federalism has created in the country's ethnic context. The contribution reviewed the government's violations of civilian rights, including forced evictions, arbitrary</p>	<p><b>Ethiopia</b></p>	<p>Highlighting the facts of human rights violations committed by the federal government against ethnic minorities in Ethiopia.</p>

*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
			arrests and detentions, violent suppression of protests, and the crisis created by the imposition of a state of emergency.		
<b>July 2024</b>					
12.	<p><b>Report</b> to contribute to a global call for concrete action to eliminate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance - Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action</p>	Secretary-General	<p>Elizka report covers the period from June 2023 to June 2024 and focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The prevalence of systemic racism and its impact on the adoption of effective legal and institutional measures to address it beyond individual actions.</li> <li>- Participatory and inclusive processes that contribute to halting the lasting effects of systemic racism and its various manifestations, and the role of people and communities of African descent and youth in these processes.</li> </ul>	<p><b>United States of America, France, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, Germany</b></p>	<p>Continue to pressure European countries before the General Assembly and the Secretary-General regarding their violations and discrimination against Africans in all areas of life, especially the right to health, for example.</p>

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*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
			<p>- Reparative justice initiatives related to slavery, the transatlantic slave trade, and apartheid, which contribute to the recognition of the dignity and development of affected countries and their peoples.</p> <p>- Racial discrimination and inequality experienced by children and youth of African descent in all areas of life.</p>		
<b>September 2024</b>					
13.	Report on Human Rights Council resolution 55/8 on the rights of persons with disabilities	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	The report highlights the Ethiopian legal framework, which is riddled with loopholes that hinder the work and social integration of persons with disabilities. The report presents figures and statistics revealing the extent to which persons with disabilities drop out of education, are expelled from the workplace, and have poor access to healthcare services	<b>Ethiopia</b>	To highlight the weakness of the services provided to support people with disabilities in various sectors, including health, education, and work, and to expose the lack of compliance with the law in .Ethiopian society

*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
<b>October 2024</b>					
14.	<b>Report</b> on Principles, Provisions and Pathways to Restorative Justice for Africans and People of African Descent (Thirty-fifth Session: 11-15 November 2024)	Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent	The report discusses the challenges facing the achievement of reparative justice in contexts such as the United States, European countries, and the United Arab Emirates, where violations, challenges, factors, and contexts are widespread and hinder Africans and people of African descent from enjoying justice and equality or obtaining redress. It also presents a set of recommendations on ways to improve their enjoyment of the desired reparative justice.	<b>United States of America, United Arab Emirates, Germany, Austria, Finland, United Kingdom</b>	Condemning the violations committed by a number of European countries, the United States, and the UAE against people of African descent.
15.	<b>Report</b> on the Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas	Working Group on Peasants	The report includes an evaluative reading of the implementation and application of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural and Remote Areas in Africa, with a focus on Ethiopia, and the limitations of the	<b>Ethiopia</b>	Notify the Working Group on Peasants of Ethiopia's violations of peasant rights, focusing on the right to land, the right to water, and the right to food sovereignty.

*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
			United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural and Remote Areas in Africa, focusing on the rights to land, the right to water, and the right to food sovereignty.		
<b>November 2024</b>					
16.	<b>Report</b> on Enforced disappearances in the context of defending land, the environment, and natural resources	Working Group on Disappearances	The Foundation submitted the report to highlight the facts and cases of enforced disappearances in Africa in the context of defending land, the environment, and natural resources, and to propose recommendations and interventions that would guarantee the rights of defenders of the environment, land, and natural resources.	<b>Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Tanzania, and Ethiopia</b>	Highlighting violations of enforced disappearances against defenders of land, environment and natural resources in Africa
17.	<b>Report</b> on accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: Preventing and responding to all forms of	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	Elizka highlights the reality of violations and forms of gender-based violence against women and girls in detention centers, particularly in Libya, one of the most prominent countries on	<b>Libya</b>	Focus on detention violations against women committed by the Government of National Unity in Libya

*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
	violence against women and girls in criminal detention		the continent experiencing unrest, instability, and active conflict in recent years. It also discusses the most prominent ways to improve the conditions of women in detention centers.		
<b>December 2024</b>					
18.	<b>Report</b> on the phenomenon of missing migrants - Human Rights Analysis	Special Rapporteur on Migrants	In this report submitted to the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, Elizka attempts to shed light on the phenomenon of missing migrants in Africa by reviewing, monitoring, and analyzing statistics on them in Africa, focusing on the cases and facts of missing African migrants in East and North Africa, and concluding with a set of relevant recommendations.	<b>Yemen, Libya, Tunisia, Italy, Mauritania, Ethiopia, and Somalia</b>	The report highlights the practices and challenges facing migrants in several African countries.
19.	<b>Report</b> on Just Transition and Human Rights	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	Elizka highlights the important relationship between a just climate transition and the human rights landscape within African societies, and discusses a set of	<b>Sudan, Somalia</b>	Focus on the health and environmental challenges facing Sudan and Somalia due to armed conflicts.

*	Activity	Submitted to	Details	Thematic /country focus	Results
			recommendations aimed at strengthening human rights in the transition to just climate economies.		

➤ **Third: Treaty Bodies**

*	Committee and session number	Activity	Details	Results
<b>March 2024</b>				
1.	<b>Shadow Report</b> on Ethiopia	Committee on the Rights of the Child - 98th Preparatory Session  From 27 to 31 May 2024	Pointing to the expanding scope of child displacement, child labor, and child sexual exploitation within local communities in Ethiopia, the presentation addressed cultural practices that violate children's rights in Ethiopia, in the absence of government plans and efforts to curb these violations.	Highlighting the weakness of the Ethiopian government's efforts to protect children from widespread human rights violations.
<b>April 2024</b>				
2.	<b>Follow-up Report</b> on the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Human Rights Committee - 141st session  1 July to 2 August 2024	Review of the reality of human rights violations committed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo government against civilians' rights to life, movement, nationality, freedom of religion and belief, non-discrimination, and the right to political participation and peaceful assembly. Pointing to the escalating rates of killing, arrest, and unlawful sentencing of civilians by the Congolese government.	Condemning the extremely poor human rights environment created by the Congolese government through its widespread human rights violations.
3.	<b>Pre-session update report</b> on Egypt	Committee on the Rights of the Child - 96th session  May 6-24, 2024	<b>The report focused on the following:</b>	Providing an assessment of the human rights situation in Egypt, focusing on achievements and violations.

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*	Committee and session number	Activity	Details	Results
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unaccompanied and separated children</li> <li>- Protecting children's privacy</li> <li>- Refugee children</li> <li>- Health care for children</li> <li>- Economic and social assistance</li> <li>- Child support collection</li> <li>- Children working in hazardous conditions</li> </ul>	
<b>May 2024</b>				
4.	<b>List of issues</b> concerning the State of Chad	Human Rights Committee - 141st Session  1 July - 2 August 2024	The list of issues focused on reviewing the reality of the human rights crises and violations that continue to plague Chad, despite the government's stated efforts to combat human rights violations. The report also highlighted the "Black October" crisis, during which police forces killed, arrested, tortured, and beat civilians in Chad and dispersed demonstrations using excessive force.	Drawing attention to the violation of the right to a fair trial that has spread throughout Chadian society since the country's political system changed.
5.	<b>List of issues</b> concerning Egypt	Committee on Migrant Workers - 38th Session  3 to 14 June 2024	The report focused on providing details that demonstrate the Egyptian government's welcoming stance toward migrants. It also highlighted the positive outlook the Egyptian government has toward migrants, including the assertion that Syrians, who constitute 17% of the foreign population in Egypt, are among the most promising nationalities with a positive role in the Egyptian labor market and economy. This approach provides additional protection for migrant	Providing an assessment of the human rights situation in Egypt, focusing on achievements and violations.

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*	Committee and session number	Activity	Details	Results
			workers and ensures the implementation of a significant portion of the provisions of the agreement ratified by the Arab Republic of Egypt.	
<b>July 2024</b>				
6.	Committee on the Rights of the Child 99th Preliminary Session  16-20 September 2024	<b>Shadow Report</b> on Ethiopia	Elizka raises the alarm about the deteriorating conditions of children in Ethiopia, in contravention of Ethiopia's international obligations, particularly with regard to children's rights, whether political, civil, economic, social, or cultural rights. This report highlights the weakness and fragility of successive Ethiopian national governments in fulfilling children's rights or providing them with protection, especially from displacement, trafficking, exploitation, forced labor, early marriage, malnutrition, genital mutilation, and conflict. The report highlights children's rights in Ethiopia and monitors violations, including violations related to the lack of birth registration, the failure to protect refugee children, children on the move, child victims of trafficking, labor, early marriage, genital mutilation, and violations related to the rights to education, food, and development.	Children displaced in Ethiopia due to climate change or armed conflict were highlighted.
<b>October 2024</b>				
7.	Committee on Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families - 39 <sup>th</sup> session  2 to 13 December 2024	<b>Report</b> on Egypt's review	The report focused on the following topics:  - Legislative measures for migrants  - Health care for migrants	The report made the following recommendations:  - Accelerating the establishment of an anti-discrimination commission, in accordance with the constitutional obligation stipulated in Article 53 of the Constitution.

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*	Committee and session number	Activity	Details	Results
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The right to privacy for migrants</li> <li>- Informing migrants about the Convention and its provisions</li> <li>- Migrants' remittances to their families</li> <li>- Migrant employment in Egypt</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Addressing the concerns of migrants regarding their reluctance to engage with independent unions for fear of losing their jobs or work permits.</li> <li>- Establishing a migrant health services portal in English and French that provides migrant women in Egypt with information on reproductive health.</li> </ul>
<b>December 2024</b>				
8.	Committee on the Rights of the Child - 98th session  13 January to 31 January 2025	<b>Shadow report</b> on Eritrea	Elizka submitted a report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, providing an assessment of the realities of children's rights in Eritrea, focusing on their rights to nationality, education, health, an adequate standard of living, protection from harmful traditional practices, protection from violence and abuse, and the rights of persons with disabilities.	A set of recommendations was presented in this regard, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Renew and upgrade its technical and technological capabilities related to the civil registration and vital events system to enable it to provide comprehensive birth registration services.</li> <li>2. Invest in safety nets and social and economic protection for children, and launch assistance programs and basic services.</li> <li>3. Establish monitoring and early warning systems for the causes of violations of children's rights.</li> <li>4. Upgrade the capacities of its security, legal, and educational institutions and train their personnel on how to implement children's rights obligations.</li> <li>5. Partner with civil society to create and implement awareness-raising platforms for child protection.</li> </ol>

➤ **Fourth: Universal Periodic Review**

*	Activity	Details	Result and impact

*	Activity	Details	Result and impact
1.	<p><b>47<sup>th</sup> session</b> of the Universal Periodic Review (October - November 2024) - Report on the state of <b>Democratic Republic of the Congo</b></p>	<p>The report explores the human rights situation in the Congo and the emerging security, economic, and social challenges within Congolese society. The report examines the rights to life, movement, and religion, prison conditions, the rights to peaceful assembly, education, health, work, housing, water, and food. It also examines the role of conflict and the security crisis in the Congo in killing thousands of civilians and detaining hundreds in poor prison conditions.</p> <p>It also examines the role of the security crisis in restricting freedom of movement, hindering the enjoyment of freedom of belief, threatening human rights defenders, obstructing the government's development efforts, and destroying the infrastructure of service facilities, schools, and hospitals.</p>	<p>Elizka was mentioned 4 times, twice in the report and twice in the sources.</p> <p><i>Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work</i></p> <p>30. <b>Elizka Relief Foundation</b> was concerned that the right to work in the DRC faced numerous environmental, economic, social, security, and political challenges. The Labour Code lacked mechanisms to monitor or enforce wage and working hour regulations, leaving over 90% of workers in the informal sector – such as subsistence farming, informal trade, and mining – vulnerable to hazardous and exploitative conditions. There were no social security protections for the unemployed, and the Penal Code did not penalize forced labor. Additionally, 40,000 children worked in unsafe conditions in artisanal and unregulated mines.<sup>39</sup></p> <p><i>Stateless persons</i></p> <p>52. <b>Elizka Relief Foundation</b> pointed out that the DRC had made no progress in supporting the acquisition of citizenship for stateless people and those at risk of statelessness, particularly people with Sudanese origin, Rwandan origin, and the Mabororo. It recommended the Congolese government to reconsider its policies regarding stateless individuals or those at risk of losing it, by facilitating the procedures for registering, documenting, identifying, recognizing and including them in the national and legal systems.<sup>40</sup></p> <p>39 <b>Elizka Relief Foundation</b>, page 6</p> <p>68 <b>Elizka Relief Foundation</b>, page 2.</p>
2.	<p><b>48<sup>th</sup> session</b> of the Universal Periodic Review (January 2025) - Report on <b>Egypt</b></p>	<p>The report focused on the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Legislative development</li> <li>- Fundamental rights and freedoms (the right to life, freedom of opinion, expression, and the press, detention conditions, and political participation)</li> <li>- Economic and social rights (the right to work, the right to housing, and the right to social security)</li> <li>- Rights of specific groups (women and persons with disabilities)</li> </ul>	<p>Elizka was mentioned 3 times explicitly in the report, in addition to being mentioned 3 times in the sources.</p> <p>disabilities.<sup>167</sup> <b>ERF</b> recommended establishing a database of people with disabilities by type of disability, and strictly enforcing the 5% employment quota for them.<sup>168</sup> JS4 and Mandela-Rights observed that Egypt's education curricula are unsuitable for individuals with mental disabilities and called for systems tailored to various disabilities.<sup>169</sup></p> <p>55 CIVAR PSD, para. 53 and <b>ERF</b>, p. 8.</p> <p>128 <b>ERF</b>, p. 9 and JS11, p. 5.</p> <p>168 <b>ERF</b>, p. 8.</p>

**B. Representing Africa in Global Advocacy: Elizka’s Role in ARMMGoS and A4SD Collaboration**

In 2024, Elizka Relief Foundation continued its strategic leadership in regional and global sustainable development advocacy through its representation on the Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (ARMMGoS), in partnership with Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD).

This collaboration positioned Elizka at the forefront of African civil society participation in critical platforms shaping the SDG agenda globally.

### **Key 2024 Events and Outcomes**

Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD-10) – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

From April 23–25, 2024, Elizka participated in the 10th Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) held in Addis Ababa under the theme:

“Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063: Eradicating Poverty in Times of Multiple Crises.”

Elizka contributed to:

- High-level policy discussions with UN agencies, AU bodies, and African governments.
- Advocacy through ARMMGoS' Preparatory and Capacity Development Workshop (April 22, 2024), which generated collective stakeholder input into the HLPF 2024 and the Summit of the Future.
- Shaping the Addis Ababa Declaration with actionable key messages from Major Groups and Stakeholders.

### **UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) – New York, USA**

Held from **July 8–17, 2024**, the HLPF was an important global moment to assess progress on:

- **SDG 1 (No Poverty)**
- **SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)**
- **SDG 13 (Climate Action)**
- **SDG 16 (Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions)**
- **SDG 17 (Partnerships)**

As Co-Chair of ARMMGoS, Elizka coordinated VNR (Voluntary National Review) support for 14 African countries, enabling CSOs to contribute to national statements. Elizka also led and moderated side events, working closely with national platforms to produce Spotlight Reports.

UN Civil Society Conference – Nairobi, Kenya

From May 9–10, 2024, Elizka, through ARMMGoS, joined civil society leaders at the premier UN Civil Society Conference, which provided input for the upcoming Summit of the Future. Elizka's representation helped shape discussions on Impact Coalitions, with participation from African grassroots and youth voices.

### **ARMMGoS Steering Committee Participation**

Elizka remained an active voice in bi-weekly steering committee meetings, contributing to:

- Strategic planning for ARFSD and HLPF engagements
- Fundraising and regional coordination
- CSO capacity building and thematic representation

Kofi Kankam, President of Elizka Relief Foundation, served as Co-Chair (Major Groups) of the ARMMGoS Steering Committee in 2024, deepening Elizka's leadership and advocacy influence.

Steering Committee in 2024, deepening Elizka's leadership and advocacy influence.

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### **Looking Ahead: 2025 and Beyond**

In preparation for ARFSD-11 in Kampala, Uganda (April 9–11, 2025) and other major global forums including:

- **ECOSOC Partnership Forum**
- **STI Forum**
- **FfD Conference in Spain**
- **UN General Assembly**
- **HLPF 2025 (July 14–23)**
- **World Summit for Social Development (Qatar)**

Elizka and ARMMGoS plan to:

- Host the 11th Preparatory Workshop on April 8, 2025, in Kampala
  - Expand capacity-building support for CSOs preparing VNRs and Spotlight Reports
  - Advocate for national A4SD networks in more African countries
  - Raise funds for broader African CSO representation in upcoming UN processes
  - Officially launch the ARMMGoS website: [www.armmgos.org](http://www.armmgos.org)
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### **Strategic Impact**

Through this collaboration, Elizka has:

- Facilitated Pan-African policy coordination among civil society
- Supported inclusive representation in global SDG dialogues
- Helped shape African civil society narratives at the highest levels of international development

This engagement aligns with Elizka Relief Foundation's core mission to ensure that the voices of Africa's most vulnerable and marginalized are heard and empowered, not just nationally but globally.

### C. Capacity Building: MPI and Stats Bank Training Workshop – Kumasi

**Dates:** June 27–28, 2024

**Location:** Promised Land Hotel, Kumasi

**Organized by:** Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) in collaboration with GIZ and the Regional Coordinating Council (RCC)

Elizka Relief Foundation was honored to participate in a pivotal two-day zonal training workshop focused on the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) and the Stats Bank. This initiative was part of a national effort to enhance data literacy, policy analysis, and advocacy among Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and media across Ghana. Elizka was selected to represent Zone 3, which includes Ashanti, Western North, Ahafo, Bono, and Bono East regions.

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#### Day One: Understanding and Applying the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)

The first day of training focused on enhancing participants' understanding of the MPI—an advanced method of measuring poverty beyond income by examining indicators in health, education, living standards, and employment. Presentations by statistical experts covered:

- MPI methodology and its relevance in Ghana.
- National and district-level poverty data and trends.
- Practical group work analyzing district-level poverty data and policy implications.

Participants explored the role of government institutions, parliament, and civil society in leveraging MPI data to inform poverty alleviation strategies. Elizka contributed to group discussions on how MPI can be integrated into grassroots advocacy and local governance monitoring frameworks.

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#### Day Two: Stats Bank Training for Evidence-Based Advocacy

The second day focused on training participants to effectively use the **GSS Stats Bank**—a centralized digital repository of national statistics. Through practical, hands-on sessions, participants learned how to:

- Navigate and extract disaggregated data from the Stats Bank.
- Use analytical tools like Excel, SPSS, and R to interpret statistical data.
- Apply data insights in designing, implementing, and monitoring policy interventions.

Case studies were used to demonstrate real-world applications of Stats Bank data in policymaking and development planning. The training also emphasized collaboration between CSOs and government agencies for inclusive data utilization.

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#### Key Outcomes:

- Improved understanding of multidimensional poverty and how to measure it.
- Strengthened capacity to collect, interpret, and apply statistical data.
- Action plans developed by CSO participants to integrate MPI and Stats Bank tools into their advocacy work.

- Enhanced collaboration among stakeholders in data-driven development.

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**Recommendations:**

- Sustain training opportunities on MPI and statistical literacy nationwide.
  - Promote broader access and awareness of the Stats Bank for CSOs and researchers.
  - Integrate MPI data into national and local policy frameworks.
  - Establish ongoing support platforms (e.g., helpdesks, communities of practice) to ensure effective Stats Bank usage.
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**Conclusion:**

This training deepened Elizka's commitment to evidence-based advocacy and equipped our team with critical tools for tracking poverty and influencing policy. As Ghana continues to prioritize data-informed development, Elizka Relief Foundation stands ready to contribute through research, community engagement, and stakeholder collaboration.



*Experts from GSS, academia, and development partners share insights during a panel on the challenges and opportunities of implementing MPI in Ghana*



***Participants from civil society organizations, media, and the Ghana Statistical Service pose for a group photo at the MPI and Stats Bank training workshop in Kumasi, hosted at Promised Land Hotel, June 2024.***

## D. Participatory Governance: Citizens' Input into the 2025 National Budget

**Date:** November 5, 2024

**Location:** Sunset Hotel, Kumasi

**Organized by:** Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs in collaboration with OXFAM

In alignment with our mission to promote inclusive and evidence-based governance, Elizka Relief Foundation participated in a national citizen consultation workshop on the 2025 National Budget Statement and Economic Policy. The forum, hosted by the Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs and OXFAM, focused on the **education sector**—a cornerstone of national development and SDG achievement.

### Objectives of the Workshop

- Provide a platform for citizens to influence the national budgeting process.
- Identify service delivery gaps in the education sector.
- Develop and validate evidence-based proposals for the 2025 National Budget.
- Foster collaboration between CSOs, government institutions, and local communities.

### Participants and Stakeholders

The event convened a diverse group of stakeholders, including:

- CSO representatives
- Officials from the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Gender
- Local government officers, community leaders, and grassroots citizens
- Education professionals and media representatives

### Workshop Highlights

#### Key Presentations:

- *State of the Education Sector:* An overview of current investments, challenges (e.g., infrastructure deficits and teacher shortages), and regional disparities.
- *Participatory Budgeting:* Experts emphasized how grassroots engagement fosters equitable public resource allocation.

#### Government Perspectives:

- The **Ministry of Gender** emphasized social protection as a key enabler of inclusive education, calling for stronger school feeding and child welfare programs.
- The **Ministry of Education** highlighted strategies to improve teacher training, rural access, and technology integration in schools.
- The **Ministry of Finance** encouraged innovative financing and alignment with national fiscal goals, while reaffirming support for equitable education spending.

#### Group Discussions and Proposals:

Participants were divided into breakout groups, each tasked with addressing a pressing education issue. Using data and real-life examples, groups developed proposals including:

- Infrastructure upgrades in under-resourced schools.

- Incentive programs to attract and retain teachers in deprived communities.
- Expansion of inclusive education for children with disabilities, with provision of assistive technologies, accessible infrastructure, and specialized teacher training.
- Equitable funding for marginalized groups and rural education access.

### **Validation and Consensus Building:**

All group proposals were consolidated and reviewed, ensuring stakeholder consensus and alignment with broader SDG objectives.

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### **Key Outcomes**

- **Stronger Civic Engagement:** Citizens gained insight into national fiscal processes and their role in shaping education policy.
  - **Concrete Proposals Submitted:** Drafted recommendations were compiled for submission to relevant government bodies.
  - **CSO-Government Collaboration:** The event strengthened inter-sectoral partnerships to advance inclusive and accountable budgeting.
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### **Challenges & Lessons Learned**

#### **Challenges:**

- Limited time for deeper exploration of complex issues.
- Difficulties in ensuring full representation from remote communities.

#### **Lessons Learned:**

- Future engagements should allow more time and leverage digital tools to broaden participation across regions.
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### **Next Steps**

- The Ghana CSOs Platform and OXFAM will advocate for the integration of proposals into the official 2025 National Budget.
  - Elizka will help coordinate a monitoring framework to track adoption and implementation progress.
  - A follow-up session is planned post-budget approval to assess outcomes and strategize future advocacy.
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### **Conclusion**

This citizens' budget workshop demonstrated the power of participatory governance in shaping responsive and equitable national policies. It also reinforced Elizka Relief Foundation's commitment to placing community voices at the heart of public decision-making—especially in sectors as critical as education.

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## Acknowledgments

Elizka Relief Foundation extends sincere appreciation to OXFAM, the Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs, and all participants—especially community members—for their engagement. Special thanks to the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Gender for their collaboration and openness to citizen input.



*Government officials and CSO leaders engage in a panel discussion on inclusive education financing and participatory budgeting strategies.*



***Participants from the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Gender, Civil Society Organizations, and local communities pose after a successful citizens' consultation on the 2025 National Budget at Sunset Hotel, Kumasi.***

**E. National Advocacy: 2024 International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD)**

**Date:** November 27, 2024

**Location:** Miklin Hotel, Kumasi

**Theme:** *“Amplifying for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future”*

As part of its commitment to disability inclusion, Elizka Relief Foundation joined the Ghana Federation of Disability Organizations (GFD) in organizing and documenting the 2024 national celebration of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD). The event, held ahead of Ghana’s general elections, spotlighted the importance of accessible democratic participation for all.

**Objectives of the Event:**

- Raise awareness of the rights and roles of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in national development.
- Confront discrimination and harmful traditional practices, especially those affecting persons with albinism.
- Promote inclusive electoral practices in the lead-up to the 2024 elections.

**Key Highlights:**

- **Mr. Joseph Atsu Homadzi**, President of GFD, emphasized the untapped potential of PWDs and called on traditional leaders to eliminate discriminatory cultural practices.
- **Nana Osei Appiah Kusi**, Chair of the event and traditional leader, pledged to advocate within the Asanteman Council for reforms to protect persons with albinism.
- **Chief Imam Sheikh Abdul Mumin Haroun** urged national unity, reminding attendees that disability is a part of divine creation and should not be met with stigma.
- **Electoral Commission Representative** shared specific plans to ensure electoral inclusion, such as the provision of braille ballots, tactile voting devices, accessible polling stations, and officer training.

**Interactive Demonstration:**

Participants observed a live demonstration of accessible voting practices, showcasing practical tools and trained support systems designed to ensure PWDs can vote independently and confidently.

**Key Commitments:**

- Traditional and religious leaders committed to using their platforms to challenge stigma and encourage inclusion.
- GFD and partners, including Elizka, pledged to advocate for broader policy reforms.
- The Electoral Commission reaffirmed its commitment to inclusivity at all polling stations.

**Outcomes:**

- Raised national awareness on the rights and inclusion of PWDs.
- Empowered stakeholders through hands-on demonstrations and practical guidance.
- Strengthened partnerships between civil society, government, and religious institutions.

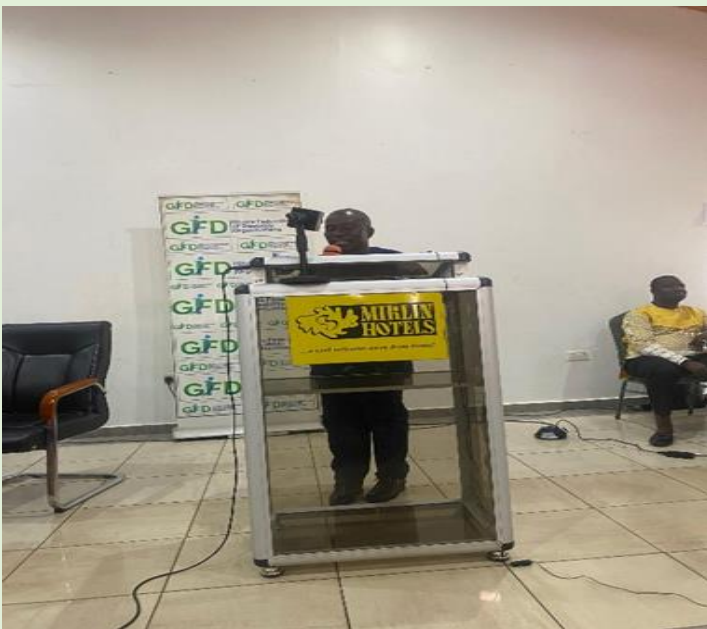
**Next Steps:**

- Post-election review to assess implementation of inclusive voting measures.
- Continued advocacy on electoral reforms and traditional practice transformation.
- Monitoring of stakeholder commitments made during the celebration.

This celebration laid a critical foundation for a more inclusive democratic process and reaffirmed Elizka Relief Foundation's role in championing the rights of PWDs across Ghana.



*Traditional leaders, religious figures, civil society representatives, the Ashanti Regional Minister's representative, Electoral Commission and members of the disability community gather in unity during the 2024 IDPD celebration in Kumasi, championing inclusion and equal rights for all.*



*A representative of the Ashanti Regional Minister and electoral commission deliver a goodwill message, reaffirming the region's commitment to inclusive governance and the protection of disability rights*

## F. Leadership and Civil Society Coordination: Induction of New Co-Chairs – Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs

**Date:** November 29, 2024

**Venue:** UNDP Conference Room, Accra

**Organized by:** Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs

Elizka Relief Foundation played a key role in documenting and participating in the 2024 Handing Over and Induction Ceremony of the Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs—a landmark event signaling a renewed direction for civil society leadership in Ghana’s sustainable development space.

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### Background

Following a resolution from the Annual General Assembly in December 2023, national and district sub-platforms underwent leadership renewal throughout 2024. By October, elections were completed across 28 of the 34 platforms, culminating in an Extraordinary General Meeting held on the day of the induction ceremony.

This transition represented not only a change in leadership but also a recommitment to the Platform’s core values of collaboration, transparency, and impact in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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### Recognizing the Outgoing Leadership

The ceremony honored the outgoing Co-Chairs for their remarkable service:

- **Mr. Siapha Kamara** – CEO, SEND GHANA
- **Mrs. Joyce Dodzi Larnyoh** – Executive Director, ICDP
- **Mrs. Beauty Emefa Narteh** – Executive Secretary, GACC

These leaders were lauded for advancing coordinated civil society advocacy, influencing public policy, and strengthening the platform’s governance framework during their tenure.

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### Induction of New Co-Chairs and Steering Committee

The newly elected Steering Committee was officially inaugurated during the event. The new Co-Chairs are:

- **Mr. Joseph Tettey Afangbe** – Executive Director, Young Visionary Leaders Ghana
- **Mrs. Mary Awelana Addah** – Executive Director, Ghana Integrity Initiative
- **Mrs. Harriet Nuamah Agyemang** – Country Director, SEND GHANA

The incoming leaders expressed gratitude and shared their collective vision to sustain momentum, deepen collaboration, and strengthen civil society's role in shaping national development.

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### Strategic Priorities

The new leadership outlined their focus for the next phase of the Platform:

- **Coordinated Advocacy:** Amplify joint CSO actions for national SDG acceleration.
  - **Community Empowerment:** Foster grassroots ownership of SDG implementation.
  - **Good Governance:** Promote transparency, accountability, and anti-corruption.
  - **Organizational Strengthening:** Build member capacity for project execution and policy engagement.
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### Acknowledgments and Closing

The event concluded with appreciation for the dedication of the outgoing committee and the administrative support of the Platform's Secretariat. Gratitude was also extended to the **UNDP** for hosting and supporting the ceremony.

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### Conclusion

This leadership transition marks a significant step toward a more unified and impactful civil society front. Elizka Relief Foundation stands ready to support the new Steering Committee in their pursuit of inclusive, accountable, and transformative development for all Ghanaians.



*Outgoing Co-Chairs of the Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs formally hand over leadership responsibilities to the newly elected Co-Chair, signifying a renewed commitment to collaborative civil society leadership and sustainable development in Ghana.*



*Group photo of newly inducted Co-Chairs, outgoing leadership, platform members, and development partners, symbolizing unity, renewal, and the shared commitment to achieving the 2030 Agenda in Ghana.*

#### **G. Strengthening Governance: Maiden Steering Committee Meeting – Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs**

**Date:** December 20, 2024

**Venue:** World Vision Conference Room (Hybrid Format: In-person & Virtual)

**Organized by:** CSOs Platform Secretariat

Elizka Relief Foundation participated in the Maiden Steering Committee Meeting of the newly inducted leadership of the Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs, which marked a critical step toward effective coordination and governance of the platform’s nationwide activities. Attendees included national and district sub-platform conveners (North & South), youth platform conveners, and representatives from the Ghana Federation of Disability Organizations (GFD).

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#### **Purpose of the Meeting**

The primary objective of this maiden gathering was to orient new Steering Committee (SC) members, review the platform’s 2024 milestones, and deliberate on strategic directions for 2025. It also

served as a continuation of the transition process following the November 2024 induction of new Co-Chairs and platform leaders.

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### **Key Agenda Items and Discussions**

#### **Leadership and Orientation**

The meeting commenced with a roll call and welcome address by Mr. Joseph Tettey Afangbe (Co-Chair), co-facilitated by Mrs. Mary Awelana Addah and Mrs. Harriet Nuamah Agyemang. The secretariat introduced the roles and responsibilities of the SC as outlined in the platform's governance framework.

#### **Review of Previous Minutes & Emerging Issues**

- The minutes of the last SC meeting were reviewed and adopted.
- Discussions centered on improving platform visibility and internal communication:
  - Daily social media engagement was encouraged.
  - A central Facebook group was proposed for content verification.
  - A WhatsApp community was suggested for real-time updates.
  - SDG-themed pop-up stands were proposed for offices.

#### **Sustainability and Finance**

- Members reaffirmed the GHS 500 minimum contribution to support the secretariat.
- Proposals were made to extend this fundraising model to all platform members.

#### **Key Action Points from Handing Over Notes**

- Launch of a new website to increase visibility and transparency (in progress).
- Proposal to extend conveners' tenure from 1 year to 2 years to enhance continuity.

#### **Strategic Direction and Planning**

- 97% of 2024 elections across sub-platforms were successfully completed.
- Two new projects were announced for 2025, funded by OXFAM and UNICEF.
- Formation of a **Communication Committee** to streamline stakeholder engagement and coordination.

#### **Representation in Decision-Making**

- Concerns were raised regarding delegated attendance at decision-making meetings.
  - A consensus emerged: representation is acceptable for workshops, while **co-conveners** may be mandated to represent platforms in meetings requiring key decisions—subject to further deliberation.
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## Conclusion and Outlook

The meeting closed with a prayer and remarks by Mrs. Mary Awelana Addah, emphasizing unity, transparency, and collective action in leading the Platform's agenda into 2025.

Elizka Relief Foundation remains a committed and proactive member of the CSOs Platform and looks forward to contributing to its strategic vision—especially through shared leadership, data-informed advocacy, and inclusive SDG implementation nationwide.



*Steering Committee members of the Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs engage in active discussions during their maiden meeting, outlining priorities and strategies for the 2025 work plan at the World Vision Conference Room.*



*Newly inducted Co-Chairs and Steering Committee members of the Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs pose for a group photo after a successful maiden meeting focused on strategic direction, coordination, and inclusive SDG advocacy.*

## Conclusion and Outlook for 2025

The year 2024 marked a period of significant growth, visibility, and influence for Elizka Relief Foundation. From deepening our engagement in international human rights mechanisms and national budget advocacy to championing inclusive development and disability rights, our initiatives have remained centered on the values of justice, dignity, and participation for all.

We were privileged to amplify community voices at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum, present 22 policy submissions at the UN Human Rights Council, and play an active role in Ghana's citizens' budget dialogue, disability inclusion agenda, and CSO leadership structures. Our work continues to be driven by evidence, local insight, and a strong commitment to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our partners—including GIZ, Ghana Statistical Service, OXFAM, UNICEF, the Ghana Federation of Disability Organizations (GFD), and the Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs for their unwavering support. We also thank our community champions, board members, donors, and the dedicated Elizka team for making this year a success.

Looking ahead to 2025, Elizka Relief Foundation will deepen its focus on:

- **Inclusive policy advocacy** at both national and international levels.
- **Capacity building** for marginalized communities.
- **Data-driven program design** in poverty, social protection, and governance.
- **Stronger collaboration** with public institutions and civil society.

As we carry the lessons of 2024 into the new year, we remain steadfast in our vision: a just and inclusive society where every voice matters and every person thrives.

Together, let us build hope, influence change, and deliver impact one community at a time.

### PARTNERS:

- Action for Sustainable Development



- Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights



- Global Call for Action and Poverty (GCAP)



- NERDS RULE INC. International



- Ghana CSO Platform SDG

