



# ▶ Elizka Relief Foundation



# 2025 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), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), 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), Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR), the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons (ICAN), International Whaling Commission (IWC), Global Environment Facility (GEF) 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 reflect on the year 2025, I do so with a deep sense of gratitude, responsibility, and renewed commitment to the mission of Elizka Relief Foundation. This year has been both demanding and defining marked by global uncertainties, environmental pressures, and socio-political transitions but also by powerful opportunities for action, influence, and collective progress.

Across Africa and the global community, persistent challenges such as climate change, waste pollution, biodiversity loss, and governance deficits continue to disproportionately affect vulnerable populations. In response, Elizka remained steadfast in its resolve to amplify grassroots voices, advance evidence-based advocacy, and strengthen civil society engagement in policy spaces where decisions shaping our future are made.

In 2025, our engagement at high-level regional and global platforms significantly deepened. Our participation in the 11th Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD 11) reaffirmed our commitment to Africa-led solutions for accelerating the Sustainable Development Goals. At this forum, we contributed civil society perspectives on inclusive development, climate resilience, and the need for stronger accountability mechanisms to ensure that no one is left behind.

Climate action remained a central pillar of our work. Elizka actively engaged in the 42nd Meeting of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board, where we followed critical deliberations on climate finance access, adaptation priorities, and support for vulnerable communities. Complementing this, our participation in the UNFCCC 2nd Climate Week in Ethiopia strengthened our engagement with regional climate actors and reinforced the urgency of locally grounded, people-centered climate solutions. These engagements further positioned Elizka as a credible civil society actor contributing to Africa's climate governance discourse.

At the global level, the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2025 provided an important space for us to advocate for accelerated SDG implementation grounded in social justice, environmental sustainability, and community resilience. We shared insights from grassroots experiences, emphasizing the interlinkages between climate action, poverty reduction, and inclusive institutions.

Environmental sustainability and circular economy principles were further advanced through our participation in the Zero Waste Forum 2025. This engagement strengthened our advocacy on waste

management, sustainable consumption, and environmental responsibility, reinforcing the need for policy coherence and multi-stakeholder collaboration in addressing pollution and environmental degradation.

Capacity building and institutional strengthening also defined our year. Through the WASCI Workshop with partners on strengthening civil society organizations' capacities in the biodiversity conservation sector, we enhanced our technical knowledge and partnerships, equipping Elizka to better contribute to biodiversity protection and ecosystem-based approaches to development.

A key institutional milestone in the year under review was the strengthening of our strategic partnerships. In 2025, Elizka Relief Foundation signed three new partnerships with the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WASCI), the Zero Waste Foundation, and the International Trade Council. These partnerships have expanded our technical reach, enhanced our advocacy capacity, and opened new pathways for collaboration across civil society strengthening, environmental sustainability, circular economy initiatives, and inclusive trade and development.

In addition to policy and environmental advocacy, Elizka remained committed to democratic governance and accountability. Our observation of the 2nd Egyptian Parliamentary Elections reflected our ongoing dedication to civic participation, transparency, and the protection of democratic processes as foundations for sustainable development and human rights.

These achievements were made possible by the dedication of our team, the trust of our partners, and the resilience of the communities we serve. As in previous years, we continue to prioritize cost-effective, sustainable, and culturally responsive approaches in our programming across education, climate change, water and sanitation, agriculture, health, and governance.

Sustainability, for us, is not a slogan but a guiding principle for action rooted in community ownership, responsible resource use, and long-term impact. We remain convinced that meaningful development can only be achieved through strong networks, inclusive partnerships, and the active participation of local populations in shaping their own futures.

As we move forward, Elizka Relief Foundation will continue to deepen its engagement at local, regional, and global levels, working collaboratively to address basic needs, strengthen resilience, and promote justice and dignity for all. Together, with our partners and communities, we are building pathways toward a more sustainable, equitable, and hopeful future.



**Kofi Kankam,  
President and  
Chief Executive  
Officer of  
Elizka Relief  
Foundation  
and Chair of  
the Africa Re-  
gional Mecha-  
nism of Major  
Groups and  
Other Stake-  
holders  
(ARMMGoS)**

## INTRODUCTION

In developing the 2025 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 2025 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 2025.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025

### 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 2025** in the field of International Human Rights Mechanisms

#### ➤ First: Human Rights Council

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
<b>February 2025</b>				

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
1.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Human rights situation in Sudan</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 58<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 2</p>	<p>The statement highlights the human rights situation in Sudan amid the ongoing war, where Sudan is experiencing an unprecedented humanitarian crisis. This is clearly demonstrated by the transformation of the Sudanese displaced persons crisis into the largest displacement and refugee crisis in the world, as well as the deteriorating living conditions that have become fertile ground for widespread violations that impede the enjoyment of human rights by Sudanese citizens.</p>	<p><b>Sudan</b></p>	<p>Highlighting human rights violations committed in Sudan by the Rapid Support Forces</p>
2.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on the right of minorities to identity in Ethiopia</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 58<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 3</p>	<p>Elizka submitted a written statement to the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, focusing initially on monitoring violations of the minority's right to identity in Ethiopia, then analyzing the impact of these violations on their other rights, and finally offering a set of recommendations on this subject.</p>	<p><b>Ethiopia</b></p>	<p>Highlighting human rights violations committed against minorities in Ethiopia</p>
3.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Human rights abuses against migrant workers in European countries</p> <p>--</p>	<p>Elizka discussed the systematic abuses suffered by migrant workers in France and the United Kingdom, highlighting the legal and social factors that contribute to the continuation of these practices. It also</p>	<p><b>France and the United Kingdom</b></p>	<p>Exposing abuses against African migrant workers in European countries</p>

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	Human Rights Council – 58 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 8	offers recommendations on how to improve the situation.		
4.	<b>Written Statement</b> on Update on the rights of Africans in European countries: Italy as a case study  --  Human Rights Council – 58 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 9	The Statement details numerous flagrant violations of the rights of Africans, whether they are migrants or of African origin, with a particular focus on Italy, and concludes with a set of recommendations aimed at strengthening the protection of the rights of Africans in these countries.	<b>Italy</b>	Exposing abuses against Africans in European countries
5.	<b>Written Statement</b> on Updating the human rights situation in South Sudan  --  Human Rights Council – 58 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 10	The Statement addresses the deteriorating human rights situation in South Sudan, where, despite the humanitarian and technical assistance provided by international bodies, the gap between needs and available resources remains wide, and the population faces daily challenges in securing their basic rights.	<b>South Sudan</b>	Highlighting the importance of providing technical assistance to African countries
<b>March 2025</b>				
6.	<b>Oral Statement</b> on Enhanced interactive dialogue on the High Commissioner for Human Rights' report on the	Elizka delivered an oral statement condemning the Rapid Support Forces' attacks on health facilities, which have disrupted 80% of	<b>Sudan</b>	The Rapid Support Forces' violations in Sudan continue to be exposed, and the Deputy High Commissioner agreed on the need to stop arms exports to Sudan.

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	human rights situation in Sudan  --  Human Rights Council – 58 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 2	the health infrastructure in the states of Darfur, Khartoum, Kordofan, and Al-Jazirah, in addition to the killing and displacement of civilians. It recommended pressuring member states to halt the illicit export of arms to the Rapid Support Forces in Sudan.		
7.	<b>Oral Statement</b> on Enhanced interactive dialogue on the Human Rights Commission's report on the promotion of human rights in South Sudan  --  Human Rights Council – 58 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 2	Elizka delivered an oral statement on the humanitarian crisis posing the greatest threat to civilians in South Sudan, where more than nine million people are in need of protection and basic assistance. Elizka called on the High Commissioner to collaborate with the Government of South Sudan to develop a national emergency plan that includes improved resource management and ensures unimpeded humanitarian access. It also urged the government to address the challenges faced by aid workers in carrying out their duties in the country.	<b>South Sudan</b>	Highlighting the humanitarian crisis in South Sudan resulting from armed conflicts, all speakers agreed with the recommendation of Elizka to cooperate with the government to address the challenges, promote national reconciliation, and ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid.
8.	<b>Oral Statement</b> on Item 2: General Debate  --	Eliza expressed concern about the escalating activities of armed groups in Africa resulting from	<b>Somalia, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of The Congo</b>	Elizka was the only one to comment on the Commissioner's report on arms transfers, which continues to highlight violations by armed groups in Africa.

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	Human Rights Council – 58 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 2	arms transfers, including the escalating activity of the Al-Shabaab movement in Somalia, which led to the killing of 4,482 civilians, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, which has become a major hotspot of violence due to arms transfers from the Rwandan government.		
9.	<b>Oral Statement</b> on Interactive dialogue with an independent expert on foreign debt  --  Human Rights Council – 58 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 3	Elizka made the statement to express her concern about the worsening foreign debt crisis in Africa, where this debt constitutes a major obstacle to efforts to adapt to climate change. It recommended urging international financial institutions to adopt a human rights-based approach in economic reform negotiations with African countries, and to seriously consider civil society initiatives calling for the cancellation or restructuring of debt, or its replacement with financing mechanisms that support climate action and sustainable development.	<b>African Continent</b>	Highlighting the worsening foreign debt crisis in Africa
<b>June 2025</b>				
10.	<b>Written Statement</b> on Human Rights in the African	The statement focused on the escalation of human rights violations in the African continent,	<b>Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of the Congo</b>	Highlighting African issues, especially armed conflicts

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	Continent -- Human Rights Council – 59 <sup>th</sup> Session Item 2	and specifically pointed to the prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence in Sudan, the serious violations in Ethiopia, and the continued adoption of similar practices in terms of violations against civilians by armed rebel groups in the Democratic Republic of Congo, which receive support from external parties.		
11.	<b>Written Statement</b> on the impact of reduced US funding on internally displaced persons and organizations working with them -- Human Rights Council – 59 <sup>th</sup> Session Item 3	The statement focused on the serious humanitarian repercussions of the reduction in US funding for UN agencies, particularly those concerned with humanitarian response and the protection of the human rights of internally displaced persons. This has resulted in widening funding gaps for key humanitarian agencies, significantly weakening their ability to provide emergency assistance in conflict zones and protracted crisis areas, which include millions of internally displaced persons.	<b>Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, United States, Lebanon</b>	Highlighting African issues, especially armed conflicts, and the impact of insufficient funding on it
12.	<b>Written Statement</b> on The negative effects of armed conflicts on the right to education --	The statement highlights the negative impact of armed conflicts on the right to education, focusing on several African countries, most notably Sudan and Ethiopia. The organization points to the destruc-	<b>United States, Ethiopia, Sudan</b>	Highlighting the impact of armed conflicts in Africa on human rights

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	Human Rights Council – 59 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 3	tion of educational infrastructure and the deprivation of millions of children from education as a result of ongoing conflicts, in addition to the systematic restrictions imposed by the US administration on academic freedoms and freedom of expression within universities.		
13.	<b>Written Statement</b> on Missing migrants from a human rights perspective --  Human Rights Council – 59 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 3	Elizka presented the statement to the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, highlighting the escalating crisis of missing migrants in many countries, particularly in Europe and the United States. This phenomenon poses a significant humanitarian challenge and raises fundamental questions about the extent to which the countries concerned are fulfilling their international human rights obligations.	<b>United States, Venezuela, El Salvador, Italy, Austria, Hungary, Greece, Croatia</b>	Highlighting the abuses suffered by African migrants in Western countries
14.	<b>Written Statement</b> on Human rights in Egypt --  Human Rights Council – 59 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 6	The Statement, as part of the review of the human rights situation in the Arab Republic of Egypt, highlighted developments in the human rights situation in Egypt during the period from January to May 2025, with a particular focus on economic and social rights, and the rights of women, youth, and children. It addressed government initiatives aimed at	<b>Egypt</b>	Participating in an objective assessment of Egypt's obligations review

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
		strengthening social services, alongside the continued existence of structural challenges that affect the ability of certain segments of the population to fully and sustainably exercise their economic and social rights.		
15.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 59<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 3</p>	<p>The statement focused on the suffering of families of missing migrants in Ethiopia, the Ethiopian government’s failure to respond to the demands of the migrants’ families to know the fate of their relatives, and the imposition of restrictions on organizations that demand the rights of the missing. It also referred to the disappearance of migrant children in the United States, and called on the Special Rapporteur to request a visit to Ethiopia and meet with the families of missing migrants, and to hold informal consultations with stakeholders to urge the United States to include the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in federal legislation.</p>	<p><b>United States, Ethiopia</b></p>	<p>Highlighting the abuses suffered by African migrants in Western countries</p>
16.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of</p>	<p>Elizka condemned the decisions taken by the US administration to freeze international aid programs and reduce funding for relief organizations across Africa,</p>	<p><b>United States, Sudan</b></p>	<p>Elizka succeeded in highlighting the impact of the United States' cancellation of humanitarian aid on the exacerbation of human rights violations.</p>

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	internally displaced persons  --  Human Rights Council – 59 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 3	particularly within Sudan, and called on international donors to intervene to prevent the collapse of the international humanitarian aid system for the most fragile countries within the African continent.		
17.	<b>Oral Statement</b> on Human rights in Egypt  --  Human Rights Council – 59 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 6	Eliza noted the positive development in the Egyptian government's handling of recommendations concerning the death penalty and holding police officers accountable for torture, stressing the need to involve civil society in implementing the recommendations and to launch national consultations to accelerate their implementation. It also recommended that the Egyptian government seek support and assistance from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to fully implement the recommendations.	<b>Egypt</b>	Participating in an objective assessment of Egypt's obligations review
18.	<b>Oral Statement</b> on Human rights in Italy  --  Human Rights Council – 59 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 6	The statement addressed the exposure of African migrants to violations such as racial discrimination, exploitation, forced labor and gender-based violence, and the Italian government's disregard for African migrant workers. It called on the Italian	<b>Italy</b>	Participating in an objective assessment of Italy's obligations review

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
		government to take appropriate measures to ensure the protection of the rights of migrants and refugees, to hold perpetrators of abusive practices against migrants accountable, and to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.		
19.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Racism</p> <p>--</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 59<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 9</p>	The statement focused on the growing forms of neo-Nazism, particularly during its extensive promotion in Germany, affecting African immigrants and members of minorities, and the arrest of neo-Nazi networks in the United Kingdom targeting synagogues and mosques. It urged the German government to adopt a national policy to combat all forms and manifestations of neo-Nazism, and called on the British government to toughen penalties for neo-Nazism-related crimes.	<b>Germany, United Kingdom</b>	Exposing racist abuses perpetrated against Africans and people of African descent in Western countries
<b>August 2025</b>				
20.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Violations committed by the Rapid Support Forces in Sudan</p> <p>--</p>	Sudan has been embroiled in a continuous war since April 2023, resulting in dire consequences on multiple levels. These consequences include the need for humanitarian assistance for approximately 30.4	<b>Sudan</b>	Continued condemnation of the violations committed by the Rapid Support Forces and their supporters in Sudan

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	Human Rights Council – 60 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 2	million Sudanese, including 16 million children, and the fact that Sudan has the world's largest forced displacement crisis, with an estimated 12.8 million internally displaced persons. Furthermore, the Rapid Support Forces have committed violations amounting to genocide, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing.		
21.	<b>Written Statement</b> on Transitional justice violations in Africa -- Human Rights Council – 60 <sup>th</sup> Session  Item 3	Serious human rights violations remain widespread, particularly in conflict-ridden environments, and there is a growing trend of impunity practices and violations, especially by police and security personnel in Africa, to the point of police and security personnel being involved in criminal activities. The statement focuses on transitional justice violations in Ethiopia, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of The Congo, and offers a set of relevant recommendations.	<b>Ethiopia, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of The Congo</b>	Highlighting the weakness of transitional justice processes in the African continent
22.	<b>Written Statement</b> on The worst forms of child labor in Africa -- Human Rights Council – 60 <sup>th</sup> Session	Child labor is active in Africa, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, and its hazardous work has severe repercussions on human rights in Africa, particularly the rights to development, health, and education. The age structure of working African children indicates	<b>Ethiopia</b>	Continued exposure of Ethiopian government abuses, and highlighting child labor in the country

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
	Item 3	the danger of child labor to Africa's productive capacity and its contribution to economic growth and the increase in its gross domestic product. Children's time allocated to education and the development of mental and cognitive skills is eroded as a result of African children's involvement in work.		
23.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Reparative justice for Africans and people of African descent -- Human Rights Council – 60<sup>th</sup> Session Item 9</p>	Reparative justice for Africans and people of African descent is a prerequisite for ending colonialism and slavery and activating human rights. Despite the end of the era of slavery, servitude and colonialism, that era still haunts people of African descent. The statement focuses on compensatory justice for people of African descent, especially in the European continent and in the Middle East region.	<b>France, Italy, Israel, Yemen</b>	Continued demand for reparative justice for African peoples
24.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Human rights situation update in Somalia -- Human Rights Council – 60<sup>th</sup> Session Item 10</p>	The ongoing armed conflict between the Somali government and the al-Shabaab terrorist group has impacted the human rights situation in Somalia. Separatist movements in some regions have further exacerbated security tensions. Simultaneously, Somalia faces one of the world's most complex and protracted humanitarian crises. This statement examines developments	<b>Somalia</b>	Exposing the abuses committed by Al-Shabaab and the humanitarian crisis in Somalia

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
		related to human rights in Somalia, particularly economic and social issues.		
<b>September 2025</b>				
25.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on Item 3: General Debate -- Human Rights Council – 60<sup>th</sup> Session  Item 3</p>	<p>Elizka expressed its concern about the worst forms of child labor at the Gara Djebilet mine in Tindouf, where Algerian authorities, in collaboration with the Polisario Front, exploit children in hazardous work. It recommended that the Algerian authorities urge the Polisario Front to cooperate with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and put an end to the worst forms of child labor at this mine.</p>	<b>Algeria, Western Sa- hara</b>	Eliza was the only one to speak about the Tindouf camps during the public debate, and this is considered a continuation of Eliza exposure of the violations of the Polisario and the Algerian government.
26.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on Interactive dialogue on the report of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent -- Human Rights Council – 60<sup>th</sup> Session  Item 9</p>	<p>Elizka discussed the issue of restorative justice for Africans and people of African descent, condemning the detentions of people of African descent on discriminatory and racist grounds, and recommended that European countries consider implementing the civil society recommendations contained in the fourth session of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent, and establish national action plans to implement the Second International Decade for People of African Descent.</p>	<b>Africa, Europe</b>	Continued demand for reparative justice for African peoples

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
27.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on Enhanced interactive dialogue to promote racial justice and equality in law enforcement -- Human Rights Council – 60<sup>th</sup> Session  Item 9</p>	<p>Elizka noted the in- creasing suffering of Af- ricans from violations of discrimination, racism and racial injustice, and the prevalence of these violations among law enforcement agencies and their staff in the United Kingdom. It rec- ommended that the High Commissioner and the expert mechanism, in cooperation with the European Union and the United Kingdom, en- courage legal reforms that recognize the right of Africans to protection from discrimination and racism, and enhance their access to com- plaints and reporting mechanisms.</p>	<p><b>United King- dom</b></p>	<p>Continued focus on European coun- tries' violations against Africans</p>
28.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on Item 9: General Debate -- Human Rights Council – 60<sup>th</sup> Session  Item 9</p>	<p>The statement con- demned discriminatory practices against the people of the Tigray re- gion, including their de- nial of access to their funds in banks. It also addressed gender-based violence against women and racist practices against Black people in the United States. The statement recom- mended pressuring the Ethiopian government to end all discrimina- tory practices against the people of Tigray and encouraged the United States to develop a fed- eral action plan to com-</p>	<p><b>Ethiopia, United States</b></p>	<p>Continuation to expose human rights abuses in Ethiopia</p>

*	Activity	Details	Thematic/ country focus	Results
		bat racism, racial discrimination, and xenophobia.		
29.	<p><b>Oral Statement</b> on Interactive dialogue with the independent expert on the human rights situation in Somalia --</p> <p>Human Rights Council – 60<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>Item 10</p>	<p>Eliza expressed concern about the incitement by Ethiopian forces present in Somalia against local tribes in the Gedo region of southwestern Somalia, and noted the ongoing violations of the right to freedom of opinion and expression in Somaliland, and urged the independent expert to call on the Ethiopian government to investigate the violations committed by Ethiopian forces in southwestern Somalia.</p>	<b>Somalia</b>	Exposing the abuses committed by Al-Shabaab in Somaliland
<b>November 2025</b>				
30.	<p><b>Written Statement</b> on Recognizing the full contribution of minorities to the economic, social, cultural, political and institutional fabric of society</p> <p><b>Minorities in Europe</b> --</p> <p>United Nations Forum on Minority Issues – 18<sup>th</sup> Session</p> <p>November 27-28, 2025</p>	<p>The contribution by Elizka focuses on the gaps hindering the integration of minorities into the economic, social, cultural, and political fabric of Europe. It also addresses the lack of political representation for minorities in Europe and concludes with a specific set of recommendations. European states continue to take measures to combat all forms of discrimination, particularly against individuals from ethnic minority communities, people belonging to minority groups, and other vulnerable groups within European society.</p>	<b>Netherlands, United Kingdom, Germany, France, Spain</b>	Exposing Western abuses against minorities

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

*	Committee and session number	Activity	Details	Third: Treaty Bodies Results
<b>April 2025</b>				
1.	Committee on the Rights of the Child,  <b>99<sup>th</sup> session (12-30 May 2025)</b>	<b>Shadow Report</b> on <b>Ethiopia</b>	The report examines the most pressing issues affecting children's rights in Ethiopia, focusing on the right to registration, a fundamental right to ensure children's enjoyment of their civil rights. It also highlights the right to development and education, as many children suffer from a lack of educational opportunities due to economic conditions and ongoing conflict. Furthermore, the report emphasizes the right to food and healthcare, vital for children's health and proper development, as many children suffer from malnutrition and inadequate healthcare due to conflict.	The report was submitted to the committee, but Ethiopia's review was postponed to the beginning of 2026.
<b>October 2025</b>				
2.	Committee against Torture  <b>83<sup>rd</sup> session (November 10 to 28, 2025)</b>	<b>Shadow Report</b> on <b>Israel</b>	Elizka Relief Report focused on the following issues: safeguards against torture, displacement and forced eviction of	<b>Elizka report and the Committee report share similarities on the following issues:</b>

*	Committee and session number	Activity	Details	Third: Treaty Bodies Results
			<p>civilians, rules of interrogation and detention arrangements, complaints in torture allegations, and the extraction of confessions under torture.</p>	<p><u>- Administrative detention and the framework for unlawful combatants:</u></p> <p>Elizka report documents the expansion of detention powers and asserts that these measures allow for detention “without independent judicial review” and increase the risk of torture. The Committee addresses these same issues in detail and also recommends that administrative detention be used only in exceptional circumstances, that the transfer of detainees be halted, and that prompt and impartial investigations be initiated into cases of arbitrary detention— similar to Elizka’s call for restrictions on and scrutiny of administrative detention and for judicial oversight.</p> <p><u>- Forced displacement, evictions, and non-refoulement (Article 3):</u></p> <p>Elizka report documents mass forced displacement in Gaza and the West Bank (e.g., “35 forced displacement orders in the Gaza Strip” affecting nearly one million people, and the mass displacement that followed Operation Iron Wall) and portrays these actions collectively as creating conditions conducive to torture and ill-treatment, and violating obligations of non-refoulement. The Committee also addressed the “severe restrictions imposed by the State party on the entry of humanitarian aid into Gaza, which have led to emergency and catastrophic food insecurity,” forced displace-</p>

*	Committee and session number	Activity	Details	Third: Treaty Bodies Results
<p>ment, and movement restrictions; it explicitly linked the cumulative effect of the policies to the cruel, inhuman, or degrading conditions, and warned that the sum of these policies “may amount to torture,” and called for immediate humanitarian access and accountability.</p>				
<p><b>November 2025</b></p>				
3.	<p>Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</p> <p><b>79<sup>th</sup> session (9 February to 6 March 2026)</b></p>	<p><b>List of Issues</b> on <b>Egypt</b></p>	<p>Elizka focused on the following articles: Working under satisfactory conditions – Article 7, Social Security – Article 9, and Cultural Rights – Article 15</p>	<p>Participating in an objective assessment of Egypt's treaty obligations</p>
<p><b>December 2025</b></p>				
4.	<p>Committee on the Rights of the Child,</p> <p><b>100<sup>th</sup> session (January 12 to 30, 2026)</b></p>	<p><b>Shadow Report</b> on <b>Ethiopia</b></p>	<p>Elizka Report focused on the following articles: the right to a name and nationality - Article 7, adoption of children - Article 21, health, water, food and environment - Article 24, social and economic assistance - Article 26, the right to education - Article 28, drug abuse - Article 33, and protection from harmful practices - Article 36.</p>	<p>Highlighting Ethiopia before international mechanisms to expose its violations and put pressure on it.</p>

➤ **Fourth: Universal Periodic Review**

ELIZKA RELIEF FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL REPORT 2025

*	Activity	Details	Result and impact
<b>April 2025</b>			
1.	<p><b>50<sup>th</sup> session</b> of the Universal Periodic Review (November 2025) - Report on <b>The United States of America</b></p>	<p>Elizka report highlighted: cooperation with international mechanisms and other United Nations bodies, sanctions imposed by the International Criminal Court, the need to establish a national human rights body, and reference to some basic rights and freedoms.</p> <p>The spotlight continues to be placed on human rights abuses in the United States following the new administration.</p>	<p>Elizka was mentioned 4 times in the stakeholder’s report and 14 times in the resources.</p> <p><sup>5</sup> <b>Elizka</b> Relief Foundation, p. 6, para. 1. See also JS60, p. 10 and Chatra, para. 18.</p> <p>7. JS61 and <b>Elizka</b> Relief Foundation (ERF) noted that the USA had not established a National Human Rights Institution (NHRI), resulting in a critical gap in the country’s human rights protection framework.<sup>30</sup> Recommendations were made to establish an independent NHRI in line with the Paris Principles.<sup>31</sup> JS61 further urged state and local governments to step up their efforts to implement human rights protections in their respective jurisdictions.<sup>32</sup></p> <p>50. <b>ERF</b> observed a worsening of the right to work, including reduction and terminations of federal employees and precarious employment of migrants.<sup>132</sup> Several stakeholders referred to discriminatory practices against racial minorities in the labour market,<sup>133</sup> persistent exploitation through forced labour in prisons, domestic work and agriculture,<sup>134</sup> and racial disparities with regards forced labour in prisons.<sup>135</sup> Recommendations were made to improve working conditions, ensure fair wages,<sup>136</sup> increase the minimum wage,<sup>137</sup> halt the dismissal of federal employees,<sup>138</sup> and end all forms of forced or coerced labour in prisons, jails and other places of detention.<sup>139</sup></p> <p>Elizka report has been published on OHCHR website:</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/2mt7rcj">https://tinyurl.com/2mt7rcj</a></p>
<b>July 2025</b>			
2.	<p><b>51<sup>st</sup> session</b> of the Universal Periodic Review (January 2026) - Report on <b>Rwanda</b></p>	<p>Elizka presented the following recommendations in the report: ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, lifting restrictions on the establishment and registration of political parties, including representatives of the Batwa minority in the national dialogue, developing a national action plan to prevent child marriage, and finally, conducting investigations into violations committed against human rights defenders and journalists.</p>	<p>Elizka was mentioned 5 times in the stakeholder’s report and 9 times in the resources.</p> <p>3. <b>ERF</b> stated that Rwanda had yet to ratify ICPPED and to become a party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.<sup>9</sup></p> <p>17. <b>ERF</b> stated that conditions in prisons and detention centres were sub-standard due to overcrowding and limited access to food, water and healthcare, among others, and lacked compliance with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules).<sup>24</sup></p> <p><sup>57</sup> JS6, paras. 2.8–2.10. See also ERF, p. 4. <b>ERF</b> made a recommendation (p. 6).</p> <p>Elizka report has been published on OHCHR website:</p> <p><a href="https://tinyurl.com/5n7fezjd">https://tinyurl.com/5n7fezjd</a></p>

*	Activity	Details	Result and impact
<b>October 2025</b>			
3.	<p><b>52<sup>nd</sup> session</b> of the Universal Periodic Review (May 2026) - Report on <b>Somalia</b></p>	<p>The report focuses on concerns related to the right to life, freedom of opinion and expression, and internal displacement, as well as economic and social rights such as the rights to work, health, and education, alongside the reduction in development aid and its impact on human rights. The report also addresses human rights violations in Somaliland in several subsections and offers several key recommendations, including: (1) urging donors to establish a fund for emergency food, health, and humanitarian services; (2) ending all current restrictions on journalists and independent media; (3) harmonizing legal and legislative provisions addressing sexual violence crimes; (4) completing the implementation of the National Sustainable Solutions Pathways Plan with the aim of resettling more than one million internally displaced persons; (5) updating, revising, and reforming its legal and legislative framework concerning women's rights; and (6) training qualified social workers to provide psychosocial and preventative support.</p>	<p>Elizka, as an African foundation, is concerned with the affairs of most African countries before international mechanisms, to ensure the neutrality and credibility of the foundation.</p> <p>The stakeholder report has not yet been published.</p>

## B. Representing Africa in Global Advocacy: Elizka's Role in ARMMGoS and A4SD Collaboration

In 2025, Elizka Relief Foundation strengthened its role as a regional and global civil society actor by actively engaging through the Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (ARMMGoS) and in collaboration with Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD) and other partners. Through these platforms, Elizka contributed to coordinated African civil society advocacy, capacity development, and policy engagement across key sustainable development processes, ensuring that grassroots realities and people-centered perspectives informed regional and global decision-making.

### Key 2024 Events and Outcomes

#### B.1 Engagement at the 11th Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD-11)

Elizka participated in the 11th Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD-11), held from 8–10 April 2025 in Kampala, Uganda, and jointly convened by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Union Commission (AUC), the African Development Bank (AfDB), and the wider UN system. The Forum, themed *“Driving job creation and economic growth through sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want,”* took place at a critical moment as Africa entered the final five-year implementation phase of the 2030 Agenda.

ARFSD-11 provided a vital platform for stocktaking, peer learning, and collective action in the face of intersecting challenges such as economic shocks, climate impacts, social inequalities, and governance constraints. Elizka, engaging through ARMMGoS, contributed to civil society perspectives on inclusive economic growth, decent work, gender equality, health, climate action, and partnerships. The Forum's in-depth reviews of **SDGs 3, 5, 8, 14, and 17**, aligned with Agenda 2063, directly informed Africa's collective inputs into the 2025 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).

The hybrid format of ARFSD-11 enhanced inclusivity, enabling broader stakeholder participation across the continent. Outcomes of the Forum, including the **Kampala Declaration and Key Messages**, reinforced the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships, innovative financing, science and data-driven planning, and good governance principles that strongly align with Elizka's advocacy priorities.





***Kofi Kankam, President and Chief Executive Officer of Elizka Relief Foundation and Chair of the Africa Regional Mechanism of Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (ARMMGoS), pictured as the third panelist from the left during a high-level panel discussion at the 11th Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD 11), alongside fellow panelists.***

## **B.2 Contribution to the 11th Preparatory and Capacity Development Workshop for MGoS**

Ahead of ARFSD-11, Elizka participated in the 11th Preparatory and Capacity Development Workshop for Major Groups and Other Stakeholders, convened by ARMMGoS from 6–7 April 2025 in Kampala. This Workshop formed a cornerstone of structured civil society engagement in Africa’s regional sustainable development architecture.

The Workshop focused on strengthening the technical and advocacy capacities of Major Groups and Other Stakeholders to engage effectively in ARFSD-11, HLPF 2025, and related global processes. Through plenary sessions and breakout discussions, Elizka contributed to the articulation of coordinated civil society positions on priority SDGs, financing for development, governance and accountability, climate and biodiversity challenges, social protection, and just transition pathways. The inclusive nature of the Workshop bringing together representatives from all nine Major Groups and diverse constituencies strengthened solidarity and collective ownership of outcomes.

Key outputs of the Workshop, including;

- **Enhanced capacity and preparedness** of Major Groups and Other Stakeholders to engage substantively and strategically in ARFSD-11 and subsequent global forums;
- **Development and consolidation of coordinated key messages and priority actions** from Major Groups and Other Stakeholders on the reviewed SDGs and broader development challenges;
- **Strengthened partnerships and networks** among civil society organizations and between MGoS, policymakers, and United Nations entities;
- **Clear articulation of stakeholder priorities** to inform Africa's collective inputs to the 2025 HLPF and other global sustainable development processes.



*Kofi Kankam, President and Chief Executive Officer of Elizka Relief Foundation and Chair of the Africa Regional Mechanism of Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (ARMMGoS), pictured third from the left, during the 11th Preparatory and Capacity Development Workshop for Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (MGoS), alongside participants representing various Major Groups from across Africa*

### B.3 Global Advocacy at the 2025 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF 2025)

Building on the outcomes of ARFSD-11, Elizka engaged in the 2025 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, convened under ECOSOC at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. HLPF 2025 served as a critical global platform for reviewing progress toward the SDGs as the international community entered the final stretch toward the 2030 deadline.

Through ARMMGoS and in collaboration with **A4SD and FORUS**, Elizka contributed to efforts to strengthen civil society participation in the **Voluntary National Review (VNR)** process. This included capacity-building initiatives that supported national civil society platforms to develop evidence-based VNR statements and Spotlight Reports reflecting independent assessments of SDG implementation.

African Major Groups and Other Stakeholders played an active role throughout HLPF 2025, participating in official sessions, side events, and multi-stakeholder dialogues. Elizka's engagement contributed to amplifying Africa-specific priorities, advancing rights-based and inclusive development approaches, highlighting the need for enhanced financing and debt relief, and strengthening linkages between regional outcomes from ARFSD-11 and global deliberations.

Key contributions of Elizka through ARMMGoS and its partners during HLPF 2025 included:

- Amplifying Africa-specific priorities and challenges in global SDG discussions;
- Advancing people-centered, inclusive, and rights-based approaches to sustainable development;
- Highlighting the need for enhanced financing for development, debt relief, and fair global economic systems;
- Strengthening calls for meaningful multi-stakeholder partnerships, including the role of civil society in implementation, monitoring, and accountability;
- Supporting coherent linkages between regional outcomes from ARFSD-11 and global deliberations at HLPF 2025.

The Forum reaffirmed the importance of coordinated regional and global engagement and underscored the indispensable role of Major Groups and Other Stakeholders in accelerating SDG implementation. The outcomes of HLPF 2025 further informed ongoing advocacy, partnership-building, and programmatic actions by ARMMGoS and its members at national, regional, and continental levels.





***Kofi Kankam, President and Chief Executive Officer of Elizka Relief Foundation and Chair of the Africa Regional Mechanism of Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (ARMMGoS) speaking at the 2025 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), as displayed on the screens during the session.***

#### **B.4 ARMMGoS Steering Committee Engagement**

Throughout the reporting period, Elizka remained engaged in the work of the ARMMGoS Steering Committee, which held bi-weekly meetings to guide strategic engagement in regional and global processes. These meetings focused on coordination for ARFSD-11 and HLPF 2025, resource mobilization strategies, partnership development, and internal governance matters. The Steering Committee's oversight strengthened the effectiveness, coherence, and sustainability of ARMMGoS' work, within which Elizka contributed as an active civil society partner.

Kofi Kankam, President of Elizka Relief Foundation, served as Chair (Major Groups) of the ARMMGoS Steering Committee in 2025, deepening Elizka's leadership and advocacy influence.

Steering Committee in 2025, deepening Elizka's leadership and advocacy influence.

## **B.5 Looking Ahead: Sustaining Momentum into 2026**

Looking forward to 2026, Elizka will continue to engage through ARMMGoS, A4SD, and FORUS to strengthen African civil society capacity and participation in regional and global sustainable development processes. Particular emphasis will be placed on supporting civil society engagement in the VNR process, capacity-building webinars, and coordinated advocacy at major global forums, including

- **ECOSOC Youth Forum**
- **Commission on the Status of Women (CSW70)**
- **UNFCCC Climate Week 2026**
- **Green Climate Fund Board Meeting**
- **International Whaling Commission (IWC70) –Biennial Meeting**
- **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 81) HLPF 2026**
- **COP31.**

Through these engagements, Elizka Relief Foundation reaffirms its commitment to representing African civil society voices, strengthening multi-stakeholder collaboration, and ensuring that the perspectives of marginalized and vulnerable communities are meaningfully integrated into policy dialogue, implementation, and accountability processes for sustainable development.

## **B.4 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. Participation in the 41st and 43rd Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board Meetings**

In 2025, Elizka Relief Foundation reaffirmed its commitment to climate justice and equitable climate finance by actively participating as an observer in the 41st and 43rd Meetings of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board. Our engagement in these critical governance fora highlighted our ongoing advocacy for inclusive climate action, enhanced access to climate finance for vulnerable communities, and strengthened accountability and transparency in climate governance.

### **C.1 41st GCF Board Meeting (B.41)**

The 41st GCF Board Meeting (B.41) served as a key platform for discussing strategic directions, funding decisions, and operational matters critical to advancing global climate action. Representing civil society perspectives, Elizka engaged with Board members, accredited entities, and fellow observers to emphasize the importance of prioritizing adaptation finance, community-driven climate solutions, and streamlined access for locally led initiatives.

Elizka's interventions during B.41 underscored the urgency of scaling up climate finance for frontline communities disproportionately affected by climate impacts, including smallholder farmers, informal workers, women, and youth. We also highlighted the need for enhanced transparency in funding processes, participatory project design, and strengthened monitoring and accountability measures to ensure that GCF-funded projects deliver measurable and equitable benefits at the grassroots level.

Our participation facilitated direct exchanges with decision-makers on key issues such as simplified approval processes for small-scale climate adaptation projects, barriers to accessing funding for civil society organizations, and the integration of nature-based solutions within broader climate finance frameworks. Through these engagements, Elizka contributed to shaping discussions that aimed to make climate finance more accessible, equitable, and responsive to the needs of vulnerable populations.

## C.2 43rd GCF Board Meeting (B.43)

Continuing our active role in global climate governance, Elizka also participated in the 43rd GCF Board Meeting (B.43). Building on insights from previous sessions, our engagement at B.43 focused on advancing the operationalization of GCF policies and enhancing the Fund's responsiveness to evolving climate challenges, particularly in Africa.

At B.43, Elizka engaged with Board members and climate finance stakeholders to advocate for increased allocation of resources toward climate adaptation and resilience-building, especially in contexts experiencing recurrent climate shocks and systemic vulnerability. We highlighted the importance of integrating local knowledge systems, gender-responsive approaches, and community priorities into climate finance frameworks and project design.

Elizka also contributed to discussions on innovative financing mechanisms, encouraging the GCF to strengthen partnerships that unlock blended finance solutions, support technology transfer, and catalyze investments in climate-smart agriculture, renewable energy, and ecosystem restoration. Through constructive dialogue, we reinforced the need for the GCF to uphold its mandate of supporting the most vulnerable countries and communities while promoting just and inclusive climate transitions.

### Impact and Strategic Significance

Elizka's participation in both B.41 and B.43 advanced the Foundation's strategic advocacy on climate finance equity, locally led adaptation, and participatory climate governance. As an observer, we leveraged these opportunities to:

- Elevate voices of frontline communities into global climate finance conversations;
- Promote equitable access to GCF resources for civil society organizations and vulnerable groups;
- Encourage the adoption of inclusive, people-centered climate solutions within GCF funding portfolios;
- Strengthen networks and partnerships with global climate actors, accredited entities, and fellow observers.

Our involvement in GCF Board meetings also deepened Elizka's understanding of evolving climate finance dynamics, governance processes, and operational priorities, enabling us to better support national and grassroots stakeholders in engaging with climate finance institutions.



*Mr. Gilbert Nsiah (Capacity Building and Training Specialist – Environment), Mr. Tweneboah Koduah (Assistant Climate Finance Officer), and Mr. Robert Marfo (Environmental Policy Analyst), staff of Elizka Relief Foundation, present at the 43rd Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board Meeting (B.43)*

#### D. Participation in the 2nd UNFCCC Climate Week 2025

In September 2025, Elizka Relief Foundation strengthened its engagement in global climate action through active participation in the 2nd UNFCCC Climate Week 2025, a critical regional climate event that brought together governments, civil society, private sector actors, youth, Indigenous Peoples, and climate advocates to discuss pathways toward equitable climate mitigation and adaptation. Hosted at the **Addis Convention Center** in **Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**, the Week facilitated dialogue on Africa’s climate challenges, investment in climate solutions, and strategic collaborations to advance climate resilience.

Elizka’s involvement focused on two key high-level events that underscored climate finance, mitigation ambition, and Africa’s unique climate vulnerabilities:



#### D.1 Sixth Global Dialogue and Investment-Focused Event Under the Sharm el-Sheikh Mitigation Work Programme

On 5 September 2025, Elizka participated in the Sixth Global Dialogue and Investment-Focused Event under the Sharm el-Sheikh Mitigation Work Programme (SSMWP)—a major platform for convening climate stakeholders around practical, scalable mitigation strategies and investment mobilization.

At this session, leading climate finance institutions, government representatives, investors, and civil society convened to assess progress and identify investment opportunities that align with mitigation goals. Elizka contributed to discussions emphasizing the importance of inclusive and equitable climate investment, particularly for African countries where mitigation efforts must be aligned with development realities.

Our interventions underscored the need to:

- Scale up accessible finance for locally led mitigation initiatives, including renewable energy, energy efficiency, and climate-smart solutions;
- Address structural barriers limiting access to finance for community-based organizations and small enterprises;
- Promote blended finance and innovative funding mechanisms that integrate public, private, and philanthropic resources;
- Strengthen accountability, transparency, and community participation in mitigation-focused investments.

Through this engagement, Elizka reaffirmed its commitment to elevating African voices in climate investment discussions, advocating for finance flows that address both mitigation imperatives and social equity.

Also, as part of thematic discussions during the Climate Week, Elizka actively contributed to dialogues on Africa's waste management challenge, highlighting waste as a growing environmental, public health, and climate concern across the continent.

Drawing on Ghana as a case study, Elizka shared practical insights and best practices, emphasizing the role of digital innovation in addressing waste management gaps. In its intervention, Elizka presented the CLEAN APP Ghana, a digital platform developed as a solution to improve waste management systems through technology-driven coordination and community engagement.

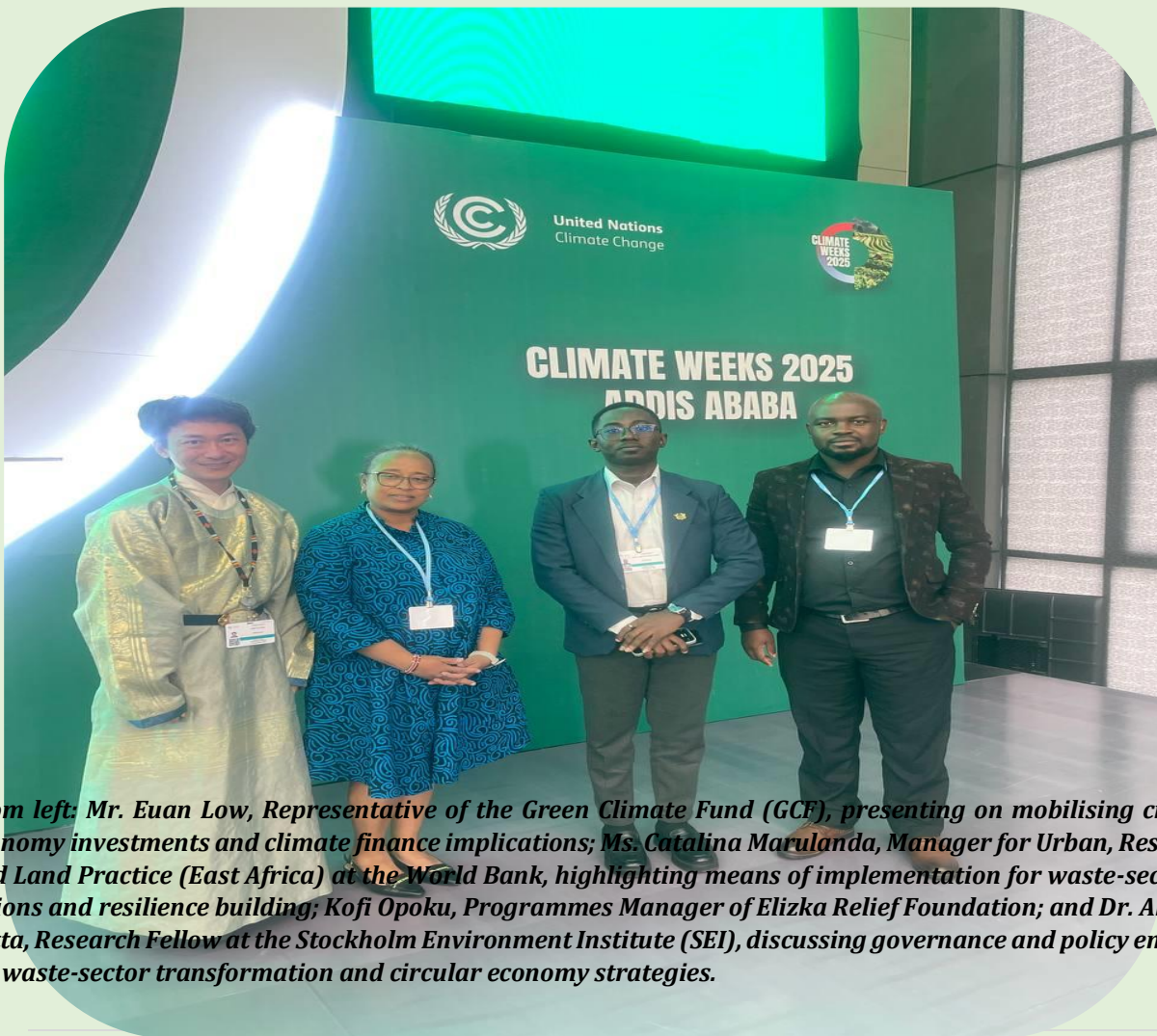
Elizka highlighted how the CLEAN APP Ghana:

- Facilitates efficient waste collection and reporting through digital mapping and user engagement;
- Strengthens coordination between households, waste service providers, and local authorities;
- Promotes behavioral change, accountability, and data-driven decision-making in waste management;
- Contributes to emissions reduction, improved sanitation, and healthier urban and peri-urban environments.

The intervention demonstrated how locally developed digital solutions can be scaled and adapted across African cities to support circular economy approaches, reduce pollution, and contribute to climate mitigation and adaptation goals.



***Kofi Opoku, Programmes Manager of Elizka Relief Foundation, speaking during the Sixth Global Dialogue and Investment-Focused Event under the Sharm el-Sheikh Mitigation Work Programme at the 2nd UNFCCC Climate Week 2025.***



***From left: Mr. Euan Low, Representative of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), presenting on mobilising circular economy investments and climate finance implications; Ms. Catalina Marulanda, Manager for Urban, Resilience and Land Practice (East Africa) at the World Bank, highlighting means of implementation for waste-sector solutions and resilience building; Kofi Opoku, Programmes Manager of Elizka Relief Foundation; and Dr. Alphayo Lutta, Research Fellow at the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), discussing governance and policy enablers for waste-sector transformation and circular economy strategies.***

## **D.2 High-Level Ministerial Event; Africa's Climate Challenges: Addressing its Special Circumstances and Needs**

On 6 September 2025, under the auspices of the COP29 Presidency, Elizka convened with ministers, negotiators, regional policy leaders, and civil society at the High-Level Ministerial Event on Africa's Climate Challenges, a pivotal dialogue focused on Africa's distinctive climate vulnerabilities and developmental needs.

Hosted at the Addis Convention Center, this ministerial forum prioritized dialogue on:

- Climate adaptation financing and resilience infrastructure tailored for African contexts;
- Just transition pathways that support sustainable economic growth while reducing emissions;
- The role of technology transfer and innovation in meeting Africa's climate and development aspirations;
- Strengthening institutional capacities to absorb climate finance and implement effective climate action at national and sub-national levels.

Elizka's participation underscored the urgency of addressing Africa's special circumstances, particularly the disproportionate burden of climate impacts despite historically low contributions to greenhouse gas emissions. We amplified civil society perspectives on:

- Inclusive governance mechanisms that ensure marginalized groups—including women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, and rural communities—are fully represented in climate policy-making;
- The intersection of climate action with food security, health systems resilience, and equitable access to sustainable livelihoods;
- The need for predictable, accessible climate finance, including scaled support for adaptation, loss and damage responses, and community-led resilience initiatives;
- Reinforcing regional cooperation mechanisms to bolster climate preparedness, early warning systems, and ecosystem-based adaptation.

This high-level event reinforced commitments from African ministers and stakeholders to accelerate climate action tailored to the continent's realities. Elizka's engagement helped ensure that civil society insights were integrated into high-level deliberations and that climate policies are both inclusive and responsive to the lived experiences of vulnerable populations.

### **Strategic Outcomes and Continued Engagement**

Elizka Relief Foundation's participation at the 2nd UNFCCC Climate Week 2025 reinforced its role as a credible civil society actor advancing people-centered, innovative, and scalable climate solutions.

Through its engagements, Elizka:

- Amplified African civil society perspectives in regional and global climate dialogues;
- Strengthened partnerships with climate stakeholders, policymakers, and development actors;

- Advanced the case for integrating waste management, digital innovation, and climate action within national and regional climate strategies.

As the global climate agenda progresses toward COP30 and beyond, Elizka remains committed to advocating for inclusive climate governance, equitable climate finance, and innovative solutions that respond to the lived realities of African communities.



*Panel at the High-Level Ministerial Event “Africa’s Climate Challenges: Addressing its Special Circumstances and Needs” during the 2nd UNFCCC Climate Week 2025 in Addis Ababa, featuring (from left) Dr. Richard Muyungi – Chair of the UNFCCC African Group of Negotiators (AGN); Tanzania, Ethiopian Minister of Planning and Development Fitsum Assefa Adela; COP29 President Mukhtar Babayev; COP30 President-elect André Aranha Corrêa do Lago and Ambassador Amr Aljowaily, Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission.*



## **E. Participation in the WACSI Training Workshop on Strengthening CSO Capacities in the Biodiversity and Conservation Sector in Ghana**

In 2025, Elizka Relief Foundation participated in a capacity strengthening training workshop organized by the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) as part of a broader three-year initiative aimed at enhancing the organizational sustainability of civil society organizations (CSOs) operating in the biodiversity and conservation sector in Ghana. The training formed one of the first strategic interventions under this initiative and focused on equipping CSO leadership with critical governance, leadership, sustainability, and resource mobilization skills.

The one-week tailored training was held from 1st to 5th September 2025 at the AH Hotel and Conference, Ghana. Elizka was represented alongside five other biodiversity-focused organizations, namely Wildlife and Human Resource Organization (WHRO), Concerned Citizens of the Atewa Landscape (CCAL), Rights and Advocacy Initiative Network (RAIN), West African Primate Conservation Action (WAPCA), and Agro-Introduction Ghana. In total, three senior leaders from each organization participated, ensuring that lessons learned could be effectively institutionalized.

### **Day One: Board Governance, Leadership, and Organizational Sustainability**

The first day of the training focused on strengthening foundational governance and leadership systems critical to the long-term effectiveness of CSOs. Facilitated by Mr. Charles Kojo Vandyke, Head of Programmes at WACSI, and Mrs. Nancy Kankam, sessions emphasized the role of strong governance structures in ensuring credibility, accountability, and sustainability.

Participants, including Elizka, explored:

- The principles and models of board governance, including policy, advisory, representational, and leadership-based governance;
- The unique nature of CSO boards, particularly their social mission orientation and accountability obligations;
- Core board duties—care, loyalty, and obedience—and their implications for strategic leadership and fiduciary responsibility;
- Board development stages and the importance of clear board manuals and governance policies.

The sessions also examined leadership styles suited to civil society and conservation work, including collaborative, servant, transformational, and adaptive leadership. For Elizka, these discussions reinforced the importance of board–management synergy and values-driven leadership in advancing biodiversity conservation and community-based environmental action.

### **Day Two: Organizational and Financial Sustainability**

Day Two deepened participants' understanding of organizational and financial sustainability as prerequisites for long-term impact in biodiversity conservation. Recognizing that conservation outcomes often extend beyond short project cycles, the training emphasized intentional and strategic sustainability planning.

Participants assessed their organizations across four interconnected sustainability dimensions:

- **Identity sustainability** (mission clarity, legitimacy, visibility, and strategic planning);
- **Operational sustainability** (institutional systems, policies, and program continuity);
- **Intervention sustainability** (sustaining project outcomes and communicating impact);
- **Financial sustainability** (diversified income streams and sound financial management).

Elizka engaged in reflective exercises to assess its sustainability status and identify growth pathways, while discussions on financial sustainability highlighted the need for diversified funding, strong partnerships, and strengthened internal systems. The sessions reinforced the understanding that sustainability is not incidental but a deliberate organizational choice.

### **Day Three: Resource Mobilization and Donor Engagement**

The third day focused on resource mobilization as a strategic and relationship-driven process, moving beyond traditional donor dependency. Participants explored both financial and non-financial resource mobilization approaches, including consultancy services, social enterprises, private sector partnerships, membership models, and innovative financing mechanisms.

Using the Savannah Conservation Alliance (SCA) case study, Elizka and other participants examined how long-term ecological goals can be aligned with financial planning, diversified funding strategies, and risk management. Discussions on donor relationships emphasized transparency, timely reporting, and effective communication as essential elements for donor retention and sustainable funding.

For Elizka, these sessions strengthened internal thinking around strategic partnerships, monetizing expertise, and embedding sustainability-oriented business models within conservation and climate programming.

### **Days Four and Five: Tailored Organizational Support and Action Planning**

The final two days were dedicated to organization-specific breakout sessions, providing tailored technical support based on each CSO's unique institutional context. These highly interactive sessions translated theory into practice through one-on-one coaching, rapid diagnostics, and hands-on document development.

Elizka benefited from targeted support in:

- **Strengthening governance and policy frameworks**, including financial management, board governance, ethical standards, and operational policies;
- **Managing organizational change and growth**, with emphasis on adaptive leadership, communication, and staff and board alignment;
- **Developing a customized organizational action plan**, outlining priority capacity gaps, timelines, responsible persons, resource needs, and monitoring mechanisms.

On the final day, Elizka presented its draft action plan, received peer and facilitator feedback, and refined priorities to ensure realism and alignment with available resources.

## Key Outcomes and Strategic Value for Elizka

Elizka Relief Foundation emerged from the WACSI training with:

- Enhanced leadership and governance capacity to support biodiversity and conservation work;
- Clear strategies for improving organizational and financial sustainability;
- Strengthened approaches to resource mobilization and partnership development;
- A practical, actionable roadmap to guide institutional growth and long-term impact.

The training reinforced Elizka's commitment to good governance, sustainability, and adaptive leadership as essential pillars for effective biodiversity conservation and environmental advocacy in Ghana. Participation in this initiative also strengthened peer learning and collaboration among conservation-focused CSOs, contributing to a more resilient and coordinated civil society ecosystem.

Through this engagement, Elizka continues to position itself as a credible, accountable, and sustainable civil society organization capable of advancing biodiversity conservation and climate resilience at local, national, and regional level



*Participants and partners of the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) at the Training Workshop on Strengthening CSO Capacities in the Biodiversity and Conservation Sector in Ghana, including Kofi Kankam, President and CEO of Elizka Relief Foundation; Salamatu Tahiru, Head of the Sustainable Development Unit; and Abigail Boafo, Chief Administrative Officer of Elizka Relief Foundation.*



*Participants and partners receiving certificates at the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) Training Workshop on Strengthening CSO Capacities in the Biodiversity and Conservation Sector in Ghana, including Kofi Kankam, President and CEO of Elizka Relief Foundation; Salamatu Tahiru, Head of the Sustainable Development Unit; and Abigail Boafo, Chief Administrative Officer of Elizka Relief Foundation.*

## **F. Participation in the Zero Waste Forum 2025**

In 2025, Elizka Relief Foundation actively participated in the Zero Waste Forum, a global platform convened by the Zero Waste Foundation to advance dialogue, partnerships, and solutions toward sustainable waste management and circular economy transitions. Elizka's participation in the Forum was undertaken in its capacity as a partner organization of the Zero Waste Foundation, reflecting the Foundation's growing role in international environmental governance and sustainability advocacy.

Elizka was represented at the Forum by Mr. Kofi Kankam, President and Chief Executive Officer of Elizka Relief Foundation, who engaged on behalf of the organization in high-level discussions, technical sessions, and partnership engagements focused on zero waste strategies, environmental sustainability, and inclusive waste governance.

Through its participation, Elizka contributed to conversations on:

- Integrated waste management approaches in developing country contexts
- Community-led and youth-driven waste solutions
- Policy coherence between waste management, climate action, and sustainable development
- The role of digital innovation and partnerships in advancing zero waste goals

Elizka's engagement at the Zero Waste Forum 2025 reinforced its commitment to promoting environmentally sustainable, socially inclusive, and locally grounded solutions to waste management challenges, particularly in Africa and the Global South. The Forum also provided an important opportunity for Elizka to strengthen strategic relationships with international partners, policymakers, civil society organizations, and private sector actors working toward a zero waste future.

Participation in the Forum further consolidated Elizka Relief Foundation's collaboration with the Zero Waste Foundation, aligning with the organization's broader environmental and climate action agenda and contributing to global efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).



***Kofi Kankam, President and Chief Executive Officer of Elizka Relief Foundation, at the Zero Waste Forum held at the Istanbul Congress Center, Istanbul, Türkiye***



## G. Participation in the 2nd Egyptian Parliamentary Elections (International Observation)

In 2025, Elizka Relief Foundation participated in the 2nd Egyptian Parliamentary Elections as part of international election observation efforts aimed at promoting democratic governance, transparency, and accountability. Elizka was represented by Mr. Kofi Kankam, President and Chief Executive Officer of Elizka Relief Foundation, who also served in his capacity as President of the Nazaha Coalition, an international coalition comprising 34 countries worldwide dedicated to electoral integrity, democratic norms, and good governance.

Through the Nazaha Coalition, Elizka contributed to a coordinated international observation mission that monitored key aspects of the electoral process, including the pre-election environment, polling day procedures, voter participation, transparency of electoral administration, and adherence to international democratic standards. Elizka's participation underscored its commitment to advancing human rights, civic participation, and accountable institutions, particularly within complex political and governance contexts.

As an observer, Mr. Kofi Kankam engaged with fellow international observers, civil society actors, and election stakeholders, contributing to collective assessments and reflections on electoral processes and democratic practices. The observation mission also provided an opportunity to share comparative experiences from other regions, strengthening cross-regional learning on election monitoring and democratic resilience.

Elizka's involvement in the 2nd Egyptian Parliamentary Elections aligns with its broader mandate to support inclusive governance, rule of law, and citizen participation, and contributes to global efforts to strengthen democratic institutions in line with Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).



*Excerpts from the 2nd Egyptian Parliamentary Elections observed by the Nazaha Coalition, led by its President, Kofi Kankam.*



*Members of the Nazaha Coalition at the 2nd Egyptian Parliamentary Elections, receiving certificates of training under the leadership of their President, Kofi Kankam.*

## H. ELIZKA–AJESH Side Event at COP30: Strengthening Community-Based Management for Key Biodiversity Areas and Climate Change

As part of its commitment to advancing community-driven environmental governance and climate resilience, Elizka Relief Foundation (ELIZKA) co-organized a side event at COP30 in collaboration with AJESH (Africa-Japan Environmental and Sustainability Hub) titled “**Strengthening Community-Based Management for Key Biodiversity Areas and Climate Change.**”

The side event brought together civil society organizations, climate practitioners, policymakers, researchers, and community representatives to discuss the critical role of community-based management approaches in protecting Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) while simultaneously addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation challenges. The session provided a platform to highlight the interconnected nature of biodiversity conservation, sustainable livelihoods, and climate resilience, particularly within vulnerable ecosystems in Africa and other developing regions.

### Objectives of the Side Event

The event sought to:

- Promote community-led conservation strategies for the protection and sustainable management of Key Biodiversity Areas.
- Highlight the importance of local knowledge and indigenous practices in climate adaptation and biodiversity conservation.
- Strengthen collaboration among civil society organizations, international partners, and local communities in implementing ecosystem-based climate solutions.
- Share best practices, policy recommendations, and innovative approaches that integrate biodiversity conservation into national and local climate strategies.

### Key Discussions and Contributions

During the session, ELIZKA emphasized the importance of empowering local communities as custodians of biodiversity, noting that sustainable conservation outcomes depend heavily on inclusive governance structures and the active participation of communities living within and around critical ecosystems.

Speakers highlighted several important themes, including:

- The need for community-centered climate financing mechanisms that directly support local conservation initiatives.
- Strengthening institutional capacity of local organizations managing biodiversity hotspots.
- Integrating biodiversity protection into climate mitigation and adaptation frameworks, particularly in countries facing severe climate vulnerabilities.
- Enhancing regional and international collaboration to scale up successful community-based conservation models.

ELIZKA also shared experiences from its work in promoting community engagement, environmental governance, and sustainable development initiatives across Africa. Particular attention was given to the role of civil society organizations in bridging the gap between international climate commitments and grassroots implementation.

### Strategic Significance

The ELIZKA-AJESH side event contributed to ongoing global discussions at COP30 on how biodiversity conservation and climate action can be more effectively aligned. It also reinforced the importance of locally driven solutions and inclusive governance in achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the Global Biodiversity Framework.

Through this engagement, Elizka Relief Foundation reaffirmed its commitment to supporting community-based environmental management, climate justice, and sustainable ecosystem protection, while strengthening partnerships with international organizations working toward a more resilient and sustainable future.



#### I. Activities of Charlotte Bama – Geneva Main Representative (2025)



In 2025, Ms. Charlotte Bama, the Geneva Main Representative of Elizka Relief Foundation, continued to play an important role in advancing the organization’s advocacy and engagement within the United Nations system in Geneva. Through her representation, Elizka strengthened its presence in multilateral human rights processes and amplified the voices of vulnerable and marginalized communities within global policy discussions. Engagement with the United Nations Human Rights System

Throughout the year, Ms. Bama coordinated and facilitated Elizka’s participation in key sessions of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva. In this capacity, she supported the submission and presentation of written and oral statements addressing pressing human rights issues affecting communities in Africa and other regions.

These interventions focused on themes such as:

- The protection of children's rights
- The rights of migrants and displaced persons
- Gender equality and women's empowerment
- The protection of persons with disabilities
- The rights of peasants and rural communities
- The human rights implications of climate change and environmental degradation

Through these contributions, Elizka continued to bring attention to the intersection between human rights, development, and environmental sustainability, advocating for inclusive and rights-based policy responses.

### **Participation in the 59th Session of the Human Rights Council**

In 2025, Ms. Bama represented Elizka Relief Foundation at the 59th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC59) in Geneva. During the session, she actively participated in plenary discussions, side events, and consultations with civil society organizations and diplomatic missions.

Her participation contributed to strengthening Elizka's engagement in global human rights dialogue and ensured that issues affecting vulnerable populations particularly in Africa were brought to the attention of international stakeholders. Through this engagement, Elizka also reinforced its advocacy on themes including human rights protection, social justice, and the promotion of inclusive and sustainable development.

### **Engagement with Treaty Bodies and Special Procedures**

Ms. Bama also played a key role in supporting Elizka's contributions to various UN treaty body mechanisms, including submissions and stakeholder engagements related to the monitoring of international human rights conventions. These engagements helped ensure that civil society perspectives were reflected in the assessment of countries' human rights records.

In addition, she facilitated interactions with UN Special Rapporteurs and other Special Procedures mandate holders, helping to highlight emerging human rights concerns and encourage international attention to issues affecting vulnerable populations.

### **Strengthening Partnerships and Civil Society Collaboration**

Beyond formal UN processes, Ms. Bama worked actively to strengthen collaboration between Elizka and other civil society organizations, international NGOs, and diplomatic missions based in Geneva. Through participation in side events, consultations, and advocacy meetings, she contributed to expanding Elizka's network within the global human rights community.

These engagements enabled Elizka to participate in joint advocacy initiatives and contribute to collective civil society efforts aimed at strengthening accountability, transparency, and the protection of human rights worldwide.

### **Advancing Elizka's Global Advocacy Mission**

Through her leadership and active engagement in Geneva, Ms. Charlotte Bama significantly enhanced Elizka Relief Foundation's ability to influence global policy discussions and promote the organization's mission of human dignity, social justice, and inclusive sustainable development.

Her work in 2025 ensured that the voices and experiences of communities represented by Elizka were effectively conveyed within international decision-making spaces, reinforcing the organization's commitment to bridging grassroots realities with global governance processes.

## **J. New Strategic Partnerships in 2025**

Elizka Relief Foundation strengthened its institutional footprint and programmatic reach through the formalization of three new strategic partnerships with reputable regional and international organizations. These partnerships reflect Elizka's commitment to collaboration as a catalyst for sustainable development, climate action, good governance, and organizational strengthening.

### **Partnership with the Zero Waste Foundation**

In 2025, Elizka Relief Foundation entered into a strategic partnership with the Zero Waste Foundation, a global organization dedicated to advancing zero waste principles, circular economy models, and sustainable waste management solutions. This partnership enhances Elizka's environmental and climate action portfolio, particularly in the areas of waste governance, community-based waste solutions, and policy advocacy.

Through this collaboration, Elizka contributed to global and regional dialogues on waste management and sustainability, including participation in the Zero Waste Forum 2025 as a partner organization. The partnership also supports knowledge exchange, innovation, and the promotion of scalable waste management solutions, with a particular focus on developing country contexts and Africa.

### **Partnership with the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI)**

Elizka Relief Foundation formalized a partnership with the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) in 2025, aimed at strengthening organizational effectiveness, sustainability, and leadership within the civil society ecosystem. This partnership aligns with Elizka's institutional development objectives and its commitment to good governance and accountable civil society practice.

As part of this collaboration, Elizka participated in a capacity-strengthening training programme for CSOs in the biodiversity and conservation sector in Ghana, focused on board governance, organizational leadership, financial sustainability, resource mobilization, and managing organizational change. The partnership with WACSI contributes to Elizka's long-term institutional resilience and enhances its ability to deliver impactful, transparent, and sustainable programmes.

### **Partnership with the International Trade Council (ITC)**

In 2025, Elizka Relief Foundation also established a partnership with the International Trade Council (ITC), broadening its engagement in the areas of trade, economic development, and inclusive growth. This partnership supports Elizka's work at the intersection of sustainable development,

livelihoods, and economic empowerment, particularly for marginalized and vulnerable communities.

Through this collaboration, Elizka seeks to leverage trade-related knowledge, policy engagement, and capacity-building opportunities to promote inclusive economic participation, support small-scale producers and entrepreneurs, and align trade development with environmental sustainability and social justice principles.

### **Strategic Significance of the Partnerships**

Collectively, these partnerships enhance Elizka Relief Foundation's ability to:

- Expand its thematic reach across environment, climate action, governance, and economic development
- Strengthen institutional capacity, credibility, and sustainability
- Foster cross-sectoral collaboration at national, regional, and global levels
- Advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through integrated and partnership-driven approaches

The partnerships established in 2025 mark an important milestone in Elizka's institutional growth and position the Foundation for greater impact in subsequent years.

### **Conclusion and Outlook for 2026**

The year 2025 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 Action for Sustainable Development, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights, 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 2026, 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 SDG



- Zero Waste Foundation



- West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI)



- International Trade Council (ITC)

