



FIVE-YEAR

LAUDATO SI

ACTION PROGRAMME

2022 - 2026



LAUDATO SI FIVE-YEAR ACTION PROGRAMME: 2022 - 2026



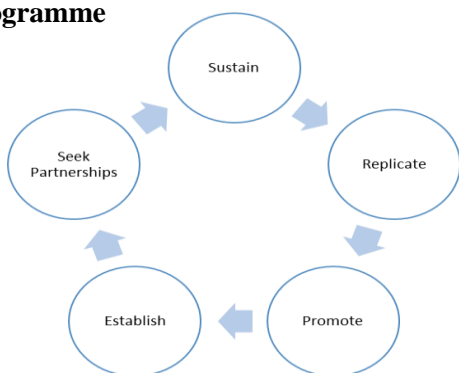
Background

Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si* marked its fifth anniversary in 2020 in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the anniversary, Pope Francis announced a Special Anniversary Year for the celebration of the Encyclical from May 2020 to May 2021. To close the *Laudato Si* Special Anniversary Year in May 2021, Pope Francis also announced the seven-year *Laudato Si* Action Platform (LSAP) to respond to environmental challenges of our time. The United Nations has also declared 2021 – 2030 as the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration as a global rallying cry to heal our Planet. Actions will be guided by the theme “Preventing, Halting and Reversing the Degradation of Ecosystems Worldwide”.

The Government of Ghana in April 2021 announced the GREEN GHANA PROJECT to plant five million trees this 2021. The Ghana Catholic Bishops' Conference (GCBC) at our May 2021 Plenary held at the National Catholic Secretariat, Accra, also launched a ONE MILLION TREES planting agenda to mark the Special Anniversary of *Laudato Si* and also to support the Government's Green Ghana Project. To this effect, the various Archdioceses and Dioceses have since taken up the challenge to plant a variety of trees in support of the Green Ghana Project.

The Ghana Catholic Bishops' Conference will sustain these efforts outlined above and also galvanize momentum, resources and actions by the entire Catholic Church in Ghana, through this five-year Action Programme spanning the period from 2022 to 2026.

Objectives of the Laudato Si Action Programme



- a) To sustain the annual tree-planting agenda of the Ghana Catholic Bishops' Conference by mobilizing all Ecclesial Communities at Diocesan and Parish levels as well as the lay societies to take concrete actions.
- b) To replicate and model in Ghana the Seven-Year Laudato Si Action Platform launched by Pope Francis to galvanize actions by the

Church and all people of goodwill to address the looming environmental and social calamities.

- c) To promote a culture of pastoral planning by the Local Church in Ghana which is inspired by the spirit of *Laudato Si*.
- d) To establish an effective Programme Management Infrastructure within the National Catholic Secretariat (NCS) to facilitate a well-coordinated Implementation, Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation of the GCBC *Laudato Si* Programme of Action from 2022 to 2026.
- e) To proactively seek partnerships with Government and other faith groups in Ghana to agree on a framework of working together to address national environmental concerns and other related issues for the transformation of our society and our common home.

The Action Plan Matrix

GLOBAL LAUDATO SI GOAL 1:

Response to the cry of the Earth: A Call to protect our common home for the wellbeing of all, as we equitably address the climate crisis, biodiversity loss and ecological sustainability.

| No. | GCBC ACTION AREAS | RESPONSIBLE ACTORS | COLLABORATING PARTNERS | TIME FRAME | INDICATORS | MONITORING & EVALUATION |
|-----|------------------------------------|---|--|-------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1.1 | Tree Planting / Regeneration | GHANCYC GJP NCLC Caritas Ghana Education | Government CSOs DPs Media | 2022 - 2026 | Total Planting Area. Number of Trees Planted. Number of Collaborators. Amount of Funding Achieved. Number of Individuals Participating. Existence of procedures to control encroachment, fire, unregulated grazing, illegal exploitation of forests, and pests and diseases. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 1.2 | Biodiversity Conservation | GJP CEHUD | Government Traditional Leaders Media DPs CSO | 2022 - 2026 | Total protected areas. Number of threatened, keystone, flagship, and endemic species of plants and animals covered. Forest type covered. Mechanisms for the conservation of genetic resources. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 1.3 | Renewable Energy | Lumen Energy Ltd GJP Caritas Ghana | Government Corporate Organizations DPs CSO | 2022 - 2026 | Number of participating households / Institutions. Share of household income. Rate of reduction in fuel wood usage. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 1.4 | Sustainable Agricultural Practices | CEHUD Caritas Ghana | Government DPs CSO Traditional Authorities Communities | 2022 - 2026 | Number of irrigation initiatives and practices. Types of soil conservation practices. Types of agro-ecological practices. Number of communities participating | Reports every 4 Months |

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| 1.5 | Water Conservation | GJP CEHUD | Government DPs CSO Traditional Authorities Communities | 2022 - 2026 | Number of communities using safely managed water drinking services. Number of communities using safely managed sanitation services. Types of wastewater utilization practices. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 1.6 | Sustainable Waste Management | GHANCYC GJP NCLC Caritas Ghana | Government DPs CSO Traditional Authorities Communities | 2022 - 2026 | Types of Public awareness and sensitization programs. Number of communities practicing safe waste management. Types of improved sanitation facilities in use. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 1.7 | Sustainable Natural Resource Management | GJP Caritas Ghana DEPSOCO M | Government DPs CSO Traditional Authorities Communities | 2022 - 2026 | Types of Safe land utilization practices. Number of communities with forest reserves / Sacred grooves. Number of initiatives on coastal and marine protection Awareness and protection of wetlands. Types of Safe mining support activities. | Reports every 4 Months |

GLOBAL LAUDATO SI GOAL 2:

Response to the cry of the Poor: A Call to promote eco-justice, aware that we are called to defend human life from conception to death, and all forms of life on Earth.

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| 2.1 | Access to healthcare for all | NCHS | Government CHAG DPs, Other Private Health Facilities and Health Associations | 2022- 2026 | Promotion of health insurance. Types of Public health initiatives. Number of new health facilities of the church. | Reports every 4 Months |
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| 2.2 | Food and Nutrition Security | NCHS CEHUD GJP | Government, DPs, CSOs | 2022- 2026 | Quantity of food produced through sustainable agricultural practices. Types of indigenous food systems. Number and types of complementary feeding initiatives for vulnerable children. Rate and access to land for Agriculture. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 2.3 | Vocational and Technical Skill Development for the Youth | Caritas Ghana Education GHANCYC NCLC | Government, DPs, CSOs, FBOs | 2022- 2026 | Number and types of initiatives. Number of beneficiaries. Number of programs promoting TVET. Types and quality of partnerships for apprenticeship placement. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 2.4 | Migrants and Refugees | DSD Caritas Ghana GJP CEHUD | Government, DPs, CSOs, FBOs, DPIHD, CI | 2022- 2026 | Number and quality of services. Access to land and other productive resources. Quality of safety and protection. Number and quality of partnerships. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 2.5 | Human Trafficking | Caritas Ghana GJP CEHUD | Government, DPs, CSOs, FBOs, DPIHD, CI | 2022- 2026 | Number of adults rescued from forced labor and sexual exploitation. Quality of Rehabilitation and protection of trafficked children. Number of services for women in domestic servitude. Types and quality of partnerships. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 2.6 | Economic Empowerment of Women and Girls | DSD Caritas Ghana NCLC | Government, DPs, CSOs, FBOs, DPIHD, CI | 2022- 2026 | Number of community-based initiatives. Number of women and girls in self establishments. Number and quality of partnerships with Financial Institutions. Types and quality of opportunities offered. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 2.7 | Relief and Humanitarian Services | DSD, Caritas Ghana, CEHUD | Government, DPs, CSOs, FBOs, DPIHD, CI | 2022- 2026 | Types and quality of services (Shelter, food, health). Quality of Policies, guidelines and strategies in place. | Reports every 4 Months |

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| | | | | | Types and quality of partnerships. Effectiveness of Early-warning and disaster risk reduction (DRR). | |
| 2.8 | Promotion of Solidarity among Vulnerable Groups | DSD Caritas Ghana CEHUD | Government, DPs, CSOs, FBOs, DPIHD, CI | 2022- 2026 | Number of beneficiaries of financial services. Number of programs for homeless people. Number of cooperative and productive associations. Quality of government social protection programs. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 2.9 | Prolife (Anti-Abortion, Death Penalty) | GJP NCHS DOE CEHUD | Government, DPs, CSOs, FBOs, DPIHD, CI | 2022- 2026 | Number of public awareness programs. Number of Pastoral statements by Church Leaders. | Reports every 4 Months |

GLOBAL LAUDATO SI GOAL 3:

Ecological Economics: Acknowledges that the economy is a sub-system of human society, which itself is embedded within the biosphere – Our Common Home.

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| 3.1 | Sustainable Production and Consumption | GJP CEHUD Caritas Ghana DEPSOCO M | Government, DPs, SECAM, FBOs, DPIHD, CI, CSOs | 2022 - 2026 | Number of programs on primary energy use. Number and quality of local food systems (Food Sovereignty). Type and quality of recycling practices. Type of safe land-use practices. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 3.2 | Dignity of labor (Decent Work) | GJP CEHUD GHANCYC Caritas Ghana | Government, DPs, SECAM, FBOs, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, Corporate Organizations, Labor Unions | 2022 - 2026 | Quality of public policies. Number of church employees receiving decent wage. Number and quality of initiatives on youth employment | Reports every 4 Months |
| 3.3 | Ethical Investment/ Social Impact Investment | Caritas Ghana GJP | Government, DPs, SECAM, FBOs, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, | 2022 - 2026 | Number and quality of ethical financing initiatives. Number and quality of employment generating initiatives. Number and quality of environmentally friendly | Reports every 4 Months |

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| | | | Corporate Organizations | | initiatives. Number of Pastoral programs on business orientation. | |
| 3.4 | Tax Justice | GJP Caritas Ghana | Government, Audit Firms, DPIHD, CI, SECAM | 2022 - 2026 | Number of public and pastoral orientations on tax. Number and quality of partnerships. Level of regulatory compliance by church institutions. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 3.5 | Equitable Development Cooperation and International Solidarity | CEHUD, GJP, Caritas Ghana | Government, DPIHD, CI, SECAM, CSOs | 2022 - 2026 | Number of community-driven development initiatives. Level and quality of church participation. Domestic Resource Mobilization Initiatives promoted at all levels. Number and quality of pastoral statement of church leaders. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 3.6 | Fair Trade (AfCFTA, UN Binding Treaty) | CEHUD, GJP, Caritas Ghana | Government, DPIHD, CI, SECAM, CSOs, Trade Unions | 2022 - 2026 | Quality of local opportunities for producers. Quality of equity and access to markets. Initiatives of Church involvement in protection of child labor. Number of initiatives promoting producer and consumer rights. | Reports every 4 Months |

GLOBAL LAUDATO SI GOAL 4:

Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles: Is grounded in the idea of sufficiency, and promoting sobriety in the use of resources and energy.

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| 4.1 | Sustainable Dietary Habits | DOE, GHANCY NCLC DEPSOCOM | Media, CSOs, FBOs | 2022 - 2026 | Number of communities with moderate or severe food insecurity. Number of programs on food loss and waste from production to consumption Initiatives for food storage, recycling and reuse Number of public and pastoral awareness. | Reports every 4 Months |
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| 4.2 | Public Transport Systems | GJP DEPSOCO M, NCLC, CEHUD | Government, DPIHD, CI, SECAM, CSOs, Transport Unions, Media | 2022 - 2026 | Number of shared/ pooled transport for church workers. Implementation of public policies and planning practices. Quality of collaboration with private transport companies (GPRTU). Church policies and guidelines for travel by church associations. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 4.3 | Youth Formation and Reorientation | GHANCYC , DOE, CEHUD | Government, DPIHD, CI, SECAM, CSOs, Transport Unions, Media | 2022 - 2026 | Number and quality of programs on youth livelihoods and employment. Pastoral care and guidelines for youth formation. Number of Psycho-Social support for young people. Quality and implementation of child protection policies. Number and quality of church-sponsored behavior change messaging. Number and quality of recreational opportunity for the youth in Parishes. Quality of ICT opportunities and guidance for the youth. Number of youth in Laudato Si Movement | Reports every 4 Months |
| 4.4 | Family Resource Management (food, water, money, etc.) | NCLC, GHANCYC , CEHUD | DLFL, SECAM | 2022 - 2026 | Number of families supporting feeding of the poor. Number of families without obesity problems. Number of public and pastoral programs. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 4.5 | Life in Public Service | GJP, Caritas Ghana, CEHUD | Government, DPIHD, CI, SECAM, CSOs, Transport Unions, Media | 2022 - 2026 | Number and quality of pastoral care for workers. Number of Catholic professional associations. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 4.6 | Modest Celebrations (funerals, | NCLC, GHANCYC , CEHUD | DLFL, SECAM, | 2022 - 2026 | Number and quality of pastoral care for families. | Reports every 4 Months |

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| | weddings, etc.) | | Traditional Authorities | | Number of best practices, models, and guidelines on funerals. | |
| 4.7 | Philanthropy | CEHUD, Caritas Ghana | DLFL, SECAM, Corporate Entities & Individuals | 2022 - 2026 | Number of charitable donation schemes. Quality of efforts to formalize charitable donations. Improved practices for transparency and accountability. Number of ongoing orientation for church workers. Number of public and pastoral programs. | Reports every 4 Months |
| 4.8 | Promotion of Good Traditional and Cultural Practices | NCLC, Caritas Ghana, CEHUD, GJP | Government, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, Media, Traditional Leaders | 2022 - 2026 | Frequency of meetings on dialogue on traditional religion and Christianity. Level of commitment and availability of faith and culture ministries in the church. Number and quality of pastoral approaches to inculturation. | Reports every 4 Months |

GLOBAL LAUDATO SI GOAL 5:

Ecological Education: Is about re-thinking and re-designing curricular and institutional reform in the spirit of integral ecology in order to foster ecological awareness and transformative action.

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| 5.1 | School Curriculum Reform | DOE, GHANCYC, GJP, DEPSOCOM, Caritas Ghana | Government, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, Media, DPs, FBOs, Traditional Leaders | 2022 - 2026 | Number of schools with documented Catholic code of ethics and code of conduct. Number of extra-curricular activities on Catholic values. Quality of partnership with government. | Reports every 4 months |
| 5.2 | Children's Services | DPME (RE, CEHUD, GHANCYC) | Government, PMS, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, Media, DPs, FBOs, Traditional Leaders | 2022 - 2026 | Frequency of reviews of the children's service by the Parish Pastoral Council. Awareness and practice of safeguarding policies. Availability and compliance of rules and guidelines. | Reports every 4 months |

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| 5.3 | Ecological Leadership | CEHUD, DOE, GJP, Caritas Ghana | Government, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, SECAM, Media, DPs, FBOs, Traditional Leaders | 2022 - 2026 | Level of educational programs in promoting environmental health. Quality of environmental activities undertaken by local organizations (women, men, and youth groups). Level of campaigns against illegal mining, land degradation via sand winning or bushfires. Number and quality of pastoral statement by church leaders. | Reports every 4 months |
| 5.4 | Environmental Awareness and Education | CEHUD, DOE, GJP, Caritas Ghana, DEPSOCOM, DSD, GHANCYC, NCLC | Government, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, SECAM, Media, DPs, FBOs, Traditional Leaders | 2022 - 2026 | Number and quality of pastoral statements. Number and diversity of voluntary associations. Number and quality of media campaigns. | Reports every 4 months |
| 5.5 | Energy Management (home, workplace, etc.) | NCS, NCLC | Lumen Energy Ltd, Government, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, SECAM, Media, DPs, FBOs, Traditional Leaders | 2022 - 2026 | Number of energy reduction initiatives. Number of alternative energy sources in use. Number of Family-based awareness initiatives for children. Number of school based voluntary association on energy use. | Reports every 4 months |

GLOBAL LAUDATO SI GOAL 6:

Ecological Spirituality: Recovers a religious vision of God's creation and encourages greater contact with the natural world in a spirit of wonder, praise, joy and gratitude.

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| 6.1 | Liturgical Celebrations | DPME, PMS | SECAM, CEP | 2022 - 2026 | Number of ongoing formations on liturgical celebrations for clergy, religious and laity. Number of Bishops that receive periodical updates on the liturgy. Frequency of training of liturgical commissions in dioceses. Number of priests who are respecting rubrics while encouraging meaningful liturgical celebrations. | Reports every 4 months |
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| | | | | | Models of integration into Liturgy for the Season of Creation. | |
| 6.2 | Theology of Morals Values and Sin | DPME, PMS | SECAM, CEP | 2022 - 2026 | <p>Number of children learning catechism or Sunday services who are educated on honesty, integrity, kindness, and perseverance of dioceses that make a conscious effort in funding children's conscience and character formation.</p> <p>Number of chaplains who ensures moral training for Catholic students in 2nd and 3rd cycle institutions.</p> <p>Number of students who learn the skills of Gospel-based formation of conscience in personal and social arenas.</p> <p>Number of Catechists and learners who give witness to justice, mercy, peace, and respect for life in their everyday actions.</p> | Reports every 4 months |
| 6.3 | Sacramentals | DPME, PMS | SECAM, CEP | 2022 - 2026 | <p>Frequency in teaching about sacramentals and their effects on the church.</p> <p>Number of ongoing formation on the use of the sacramentals.</p> <p>Number of the faithful who use and pray the sacramentals.</p> | Reports every 4 months |
| 6.4 | Catechesis | DPME, PMS | SECAM, CEP | 2022 - 2026 | <p>Frequency of assessment conducted on catechists, religious education and proclamation of the word.</p> <p>Level of participation at public liturgical celebrations.</p> <p>Percentage of priests, religious and lay leaders who participate in spiritual retreats each year.</p> <p>Number of Bishops who create feedback mechanisms for their subjects on moral issues.</p> <p>Number of Priests who have perpetrated abuse issues and made to face diocesan regulations.</p> | Reports every 4 months |

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| | | | | | Application of the church's social teaching in personal, professional, cultural, and social areas. | |
| 6.5 | Pastoral Plans | DPME, PMS | SECAM, CEP | 2022 - 2026 | Number of Dioceses with documented integrated pastoral plans. Frequency of review and replanning of GCBC's National pastoral agenda. Number and diversity of participation of stakeholders. | Reports every 4 months |
| 6.6 | Conscience Formation and Discernment | DPME, PMS | SECAM, CEP | 2022 - 2026 | Number of students that learn the skills of Gospel-based formation of conscience in personal and social arenas. Number of students that are taught the dignity, destiny, freedom, and responsibility of the human person, together with the reality of sin and the power of God's grace to overcome it. Number of Catechists and learners that give witness to justice, mercy, peace, and respect for life in their everyday actions. Number and quality of pastoral statements on socio-political issues. | Reports every 4 months |
| 6.7 | Stewardship, Labor, Work and Prayer | DPME, GJP, Caritas Ghana, | SECAM, CEP, DPIHD | 2022 - 2026 | Number of catechists that pray together regularly including retreats and recollection. Number of various prayer forms that are taught and creatively utilized, including personal prayer, and shared prayer with others. Number of work-place prayer meetings. Number of parishioners whose role as parents are the primary influence in the faith development of their children is recognized. | Reports every 4 months |
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GLOBAL LAUDATO SI GOAL 7:

Community Engagement and Participatory Action: Encourage the development of cultures and policies that protect our common home and all who share it.

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| 7.1 | Local Governance and Civic Participation | GJP, Caritas Ghana | Government, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, SECAM, Media, DPs, FBOs, Traditional Leaders | 2022 - 2026 | Number and quality of civic awareness programs on Rule of Law. Number and quality of civic awareness programs on Public Financial and Monetary policies. Number and quality of collaboration with media for civic voice. | Report every 4 months |
| 7.2 | Engagement with Decision Makers (political, ecclesial, traditional, etc.) | GJP, Caritas Ghana, CEHUD | Government, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, SECAM, Media, DPs, FBOs, Traditional Leaders, ICLN | 2022 - 2026 | Number and quality of dialogue and engagement with decision makers. Number of commonly agreed initiatives implemented by government Number and quality of independent verification of government claims. | Report every 4 months |
| 7.3 | Interfaith Cooperation | DOE, Caritas Ghana, GJP, DPME | DPIHD, CI, FBOs, SECAM | 2022 - 2026 | Existence and formalization of structures for interfaith cooperation. Number of joint statements by interfaith leaders Number of programs jointly implemented by FBOs. Number of regions in Ghana replicating the FAITH in Ghana Alliance model. | Report every 4 months |
| 7.4 | Promotion of Local Caritas in Communities | Caritas Ghana | CI | 2022 - 2026 | Level of awareness creation of the work of Caritas in the dioceses. Number of dioceses/bishops promoting sustainable structures and systems for Caritas at parish and community arenas. Number of community-based support systems for the poor. Level of compliance with State | Report every 4 months |

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| | | | | | and Church rules for humanitarian services. | |
| 7.5 | Promotion of Peace and Conflict Transformation | GJP, Caritas Ghana, CEHUD, GHANCYC | Government, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, SECAM, Media, DPs, FBOs, Traditional Leaders, ICLN | 2022 - 2026 | Number and quality of programs targeting young people. Number and quality of early-warning systems in place. Quality of collaboration among stakeholders. Number of public and pastoral statements by church leaders. | Report every 4 months |
| 7.6 | Dialogue and Education on Public Policies | GJP, NCS, Caritas Ghana | Government, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, SECAM, Media, DPs, FBOs, Traditional Leaders, ICLN | 2022 - 2026 | Number and quality of engagements. Number of consensus issues reached and implemented. Number and quality of independent monitoring of government claims. Number of public and pastoral statements. | Report every 4 months |
| 7.7 | Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships | GJP, Caritas Ghana, CEHUD | Government, DPIHD, CI, CSOs, SECAM, Media, DPs, FBOs, Traditional Leaders, ICLN | 2022 - 2026 | Number and diversity of partnerships. Number of collective / pooled funding for programs. Level and quality of information available to partners for action. | Report every 4 months |
| 7.8 | Media Engagements | DEPSOCOM | Mainstream Media | 2022 - 2026 | Avenues and frequency for engagement. Number of social and environmental concerns of church taken up by media. Avenues exist for addressing grievances with media. Number of dioceses with formal structure for media engagement. | Report every 4 months |

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| 7.9 | Community Mobilization, Empowerment and Rural Development | GHANCYC, CEHUD, DSD, GJP | Government, CSOs, Media, DPs, FBOs, Traditional Leaders and Communities | 2022 - 2026 | Number of community-driven initiatives supported by the church. Number of livelihood opportunities created in communities. Number and quality of initiatives for civic participation at community level. Number of civic monitoring initiatives of social services in their communities. | Report every 4 months |
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GLOSSARY

NCS: National Catholic Secretariat

NCLC: National Catholic Laity Council

GJP: Governance Justice & Peace

NCHS: National Catholic Health Service

DSD: Directorate of Social Development

RCE: Religious & Catechetical Education

DEO: Directorate of Education

PMS: Pontifical Mission Societies

GHANCYC: Ghana National Catholic Youth Council

CEHUD: Centre for Human Development

CHAG: Christian Health Association of Ghana

CEP: Congregation for the Evangelization of People

FBOs: Faith Based Organizations

CSOs: Civil Society Organizations

DPs: Donor Partners

CI: Caritas Internationalis

DPIHD: Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development

DLFL: Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life

ICLN: International Catholic Legislators Network