

Pilot Phase

The Bludo Experience

The Bludo community is a farming community in the South Tongu District of the Volta Region; it is considered one of the food baskets for the South Tongu District. As a community on an island, Bludo is isolated from infrastructural development that other communities on the mainland enjoy.

Life in Bludo before solar solutions

Life in Bludo before the intervention had not been easy. After working tirelessly the whole day under the sun, indigenes retire to their various homes, plunged into total darkness. As a result of this, most activities came to a halt at night in Bludo.

Life in Bludo with Solar Solutions

To help put an end to this problem, The DI provided a number of solar street lamps and rechargeable lamps for the community with funding from ICA-USA Global fund. Thanks to this intervention, the story of the Bludo community changed overnight! Currently, children of school going age are able to study deep into the night and life goes on in the community even after sunset.

Phase II - The Solar Innovations Partnerships Project (SIPP)

With the progress made in implementing the pilot phase, the second phase seeks to extend solar solutions to all communities within the Avu Lagoon enclave. This phase will be rolled out with funding support from ICA USA Global Fund and in collaboration with partner organisations.

Phase II Start Date - May 2022



Implementing
organisation



Funding
organisation

Empowering People for Sustainable Development

About the Institute of Cultural Affairs International (ICAI)

The Institute of Cultural Affairs International (ICAI) is a global community of non-profit organisations advancing human development worldwide. ICAI is about empowering, an authentic and sustainable transformation of individuals, communities and organizations, through methods and values.

ICAs in Africa

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- ICA Zimbabwe

About The Development Institute (The DI)

The DI is a Ghanaian non-governmental, not-for-profit sustainable development organization formed with the goal of creating an enabling environment for empowering Civil Society Organizations and communities to facilitate the linkage between micro and macro levels of society for sustainable development

The DI operates within three main themes which are economic, environmental and human security and supports its work with policy research, advocacy and dialogue on sustainable development.

Do you want to partner with us?

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Africa ICAs Climate Change Project

The Solar Innovations Partnerships Project (SIPP)

*The Rise of Solar Innovations in
Avu Lagoon CREMA*



Context

The current shift in global technological advancement, development and adoption of climate smart approaches to deal with and mitigate the impacts of climate change has resulted in many countries adjusting their conventional ways of living.

Following the previous support received from ICA USA Global Fund by The Development Institute (The DI), to support Bludo community with solar powered lamps and streetlights, other communities have been making demands on The DI to pursue opportunities that will promote a bigger cascading effect on climate and to bridge energy gaps in rural communities in the Avu Lagoon environs. This is due to perceived and real opportunities in adopting and use of advance solar innovations to promote their economic and social welfare.

Ghana like many other African countries is experiencing significant impacts of climate change and now more than ever, the need to adopt sustainable energy solutions is eminent.

The Solar Innovation Partnerships Project (SIPP)

With the introduction of the Solar Innovation Partnerships project, The DI intends to increase the number of solar lamps in Bludo and also expand to other remote off grid communities in the Avu Lagoon enclave. This therefore calls for the development of partnerships to support the promotion of the solar innovations. This is intended to empower rural communities to increase adoption and application of solar innovations in their day-to-day life and in livelihood activities.

Promoting Eco-Solutions

Surely, these partnerships are expected to yield resources; either of direct donations of solar energy equipment to communities or cash to purchase and supply equipment to demanding communities, groups or individuals.

The SIPP would support small scale applications in areas such as:

- Simple Green buildings and infrastructure
- Solar irrigation
- Solar lighting
- Simple Solar powered food processors
- Other local Innovative solar appliances
- Support community restorative activities indirectly

Expected Outcome

The adoption of sustainable green energy solutions through this partnership is intended to contribute to climate change mitigation efforts by communities in the Avu Lagoon landscape. It also expected that partners to be engaged will also become interested in other development issues in the Avu Lagoon area.

Innovation of SIPP

Beneficiaries of the project will contribute to additional climate change mitigation activities. These will include: participation in restoration activities in the Avu Lagoon enclave such as; supporting seed collection, nursery management, planting of seedlings and nurturing seedlings in the field.

→ Goal

Support the adoption of technological and institutional solar innovations to address the constraints and challenges of upscaling solar technological advancement with special focus on the challenges faced by small scale, marginal, women farmers and indigenes within the Avu Lagoon enclave

→ Objectives

- To build partnership for raising funds and or equipment donation within Ghana towards innovative solar technologies adaption and usage
- To identify at least 20 organisations and individuals within Ghana and also beyond to sponsor the solar driven equipment purchase, supply, installation and training to communities within Avu Lagoon CREMA area
- To support innovations targeted at reducing barriers of sustainable adoption and use of solar innovations through receiving, demand, identifying the appropriate equipment and supply
- To support innovations that enhance climate-resilient livelihood options for small-scale, marginal, women and indigenes of Avu Lagoon CREMA

→ Strategy

- Document target communities as well as their needs
- Profile potential partner organisations and companies
- Categorise potential partner companies as follows: Businesses, Government agencies and Embassies

→ Implementation Plan

- Resources (equipment and fund) mobilised will be applied to satisfy community and individual demands
- Beneficiaries will be made to provide services (eg. supply tree seedlings to the community tree nursery) rather than the cash, close to the estimated cost of solar equipment demanded
- The Development Institute in collaboration with the community leaders would lead and facilitate the processes of supporting initially, five solar applications within the communities with the funding from the partnerships