Communique
STAR-Ghana Partners’ Learning Event
26-27 April 2018
Golden Tulip Hotel, Kumasi City

This Communique is released by participants at the STAR-Ghana Partners’ Learning Event, with funding from the European Union (EU), DANIDA and UKaid, on the theme “Social Inclusion for Sustainable Development”, held at the Golden Tulip Hotel, Kumasi City from the 26-27 April 2018. The participants are Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Partners, media partners and strategic opportunities partners as well as representatives of the National Council on Persons with Disabilities and the Nanumba South District Assembly. The event focused on harvesting lessons and learning from project implementation and identifying recommendations for promoting and protecting the rights of excluded social groups particularly women and persons with disabilities.

Having heard presentations from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other stakeholders on their contributions towards promoting gender equality and social inclusion;

Acknowledging the progress made towards promoting gender equality and social inclusion for sustainable development through the collective actions of CSOs, the media, Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) and other state institutions such as the Ministry for Gender, Children and Social Protection; the National Council on Persons with Disabilities; Ministry for Inner Cities and Zongo Development and Parliament;

Recognizing that there are still systemic barriers that limit voice and influence of women, children, persons With Disabilities (PWDs) and other social groups in decisions that affect their lives;

We, the participants at the Learning Event, “a critical mass of civil society facilitating and mobilizing collective actions and movements for the achievement of social justice and human rights”, adopt the following resolutions:

- Provide technical support to each other’s work/project to build synergies around shared GESI goals;
- Strengthen CSO and media capacity to mainstream and respond to GESI issues;
- Foster linkages and strengthen coordination amongst GESI Partners, Stakeholders and Beneficiaries for ownership and sustainability of GESI initiatives;
- Build upon strategic engagement and communication via multiple channels- use of social media platforms and traditional media (tv, radio, and newspapers);
- Mobilize key stakeholders such as traditional and local government authorities for collective actions to address systemic barriers including certain socio-cultural norms against socially excluded groups;
- Maintain and promote inclusion of beneficiaries in project design, implementation and feedback loop to help sustainability and ownership of results;
- Sustain the use of participatory approaches and local languages to reach under-served communities;
- Pursue proactive interventions that target stakeholders to impact GESI consciousness into curricula and other public education activities;

On this note, we Civil Society Organizations, the media and entire participants of the STAR-Ghana Partners’ Learning Event have resolved to continue to play our surveillance role and sustain GESI outcomes.

Signed on this day 27th April, 2018 for and on behalf of all participants of the STAR-Ghana Partners’ Learning Event on the theme “Social Inclusion for Sustainable Development”.

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Cluster</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Signature</th>
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<tr>
<td>Eyram Bashan</td>
<td>Economic Rights and Empowerment</td>
<td>EIB Network</td>
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<td>Wendy Abbey</td>
<td>Access to Essential Services – Health and Education</td>
<td>Human Rights Advocacy Centre</td>
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<td>Moses Fordjour</td>
<td>Human Rights: Sexual and Gender Based Violence</td>
<td>Ghana Federation of Disability Organisations</td>
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<td>Francis Asong</td>
<td>Accountability, Inclusive Governance Participation</td>
<td>Voice Ghana</td>
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