Towards a sustainable, peaceful and equitable Ghana

Private sector partnerships

The STAR Ghana Foundation recognises the critical contribution that businesses, large and small, make to the development of Ghana.

In the spirit of Ghana’s commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Global Compact with Business, we seek to partner with the private sector to create the best possible environment for business and inclusive economic growth.

Intrinsic to the STAR Ghana Foundation’s mission is its role as a convener and bridge builder, fostering trust by bringing together civil society, government and private sector to address pressing issues – such as accountability, corruption, galamsey, gender equality and social inclusion. We want to work with business leaders to promote a culture of corporate citizenship, social change philanthropy and sustainable business practices that benefit the whole community.

Together we can create the conditions in which businesses, and everyone, can thrive.

‘All of us — the private sector, civil society, labour unions, NGOs, universities, foundations, and individuals — must come together in an alliance for progress. Together, we can and must move from value to values, from shareholders to stakeholders, and from balance sheets to balanced development. Together, we can and must face the dangers ahead and bring solutions within reach.’ Kofi Annan

Our track record

We have worked closely with diverse private sector organisations, the media and business associations on a wide variety of shared interests. For example, we worked with the Institute of Chartered Accountants who successfully advocated for the adoption of international public sector accounting standards as part of public financial management reforms.

Through our partnerships with the Chamber of Pharmacy, the Private Enterprise Foundation and the Association of Ghana Industries, we are working to tackle corruption and improve accountability. Evidence shows that our targeted elections support contributed substantially to a more inclusive, orderly and peaceful 2016 Ghana national elections, which have in turn promoted a stable and positive business environment.

Proven technical expertise

We bring in-depth knowledge, technical expertise and experience to complex development challenges. Established by recognised international agencies, we have managed a programme worth over $70m and supported over 200 partner organisations, delivering proven and sustainable results.

Advance Ghana’s development by partnering with the STAR Ghana Foundation as part of your corporate citizenship, sustainability and social responsibility commitments.
We act as fund manager to support local organisations to deliver on good governance, transparency and accountability programmes that help to address local issues. We are well positioned to act as intermediary to channel funds to local organisations and ensure joined up action linked to high level and sustainable results. We add value to local partner projects by helping to strengthen partners’ internal governance and control systems through stringent due diligence assessments and continuous financial and programme training.

Influence and convening power
Working with the STAR Ghana Foundation connects you to more than 200 local civil society partner organisations working in every district in Ghana. We are recognised for our ability to convene people from across civil society, local and national government, media, traditional authorities and private sector to work together on critical social challenges. With our partners, we work closely with government at all levels including national government, Parliament and the judiciary on key national issues.

We bring connections and perspectives from our growing international relationships, including strong relationships with UK aid from the UK Government, DANIDA from the Danish Government, the European Union and our consortium partners which includes leading international development, research and consultancy organisations.

A national priority for growth
The Sustainable Development Goals with their emphasis on domestic resource mobilization highlight the private sector as a key partner in fostering national economic development. A thriving private sector increases opportunities for income generation and employment, which spurs economic growth and reduces poverty. Private sector development has been one of the Government’s priorities in Ghana’s Medium-Term Development Plans as enshrined in the Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS II) and the erstwhile Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs). The policy objective in recent years is to focus on strengthening the private sector so it can operate effectively as a major engine of growth. In addition, the growing social enterprise sector seeks to pursue economic objectives with direct or indirect societal benefits, and make progress toward local, sustainable development.

A secure, stable and sustainable environment for business
Ghana is a beacon of hope for multi-party democracy and economic development in Africa. But while Ghana’s star has been rising, many citizens are still being left behind.

A more inclusive, sustainable and democratic Ghana creates the security and stability needed for businesses of all sizes to grow, gives confidence to national and international investors, and supports our entrepreneurs to create thriving new 21st century businesses.

We have supported more than 110 projects and initiatives that contributed to achieving peaceful and credible presidential and parliamentary elections in 2012 and 2016. We have supported targeted activities before, during and after elections, with a particular focus on peace and security. We have also sponsored initiatives which help to build trust and wider participation in the election process.

Through our anticorruption and transparency work, we are helping to develop models proven to work in the promotion of transparency and accountability, contributing to the creation of an enabling environment for business. We have brought together a wide range of stakeholders from community, civil society, media, research and private sector organisations to create and test initiatives aimed at tackling corruption in the delivery of public services and supply chains; promoting accountability in mining royalties in the extractive industries; and many other areas.
"We strongly believe that Ghana has the means to finance the implementation of the SDGs. For us to achieve a Ghana beyond Aid we need to mobilize domestic resources including the passions and innovations of social enterprises and the funding and business acumen of corporate Ghana. We have a rich heritage as Ghanaians of coming together to build our nation and this building has for the most part been led by entrepreneurs and corporate leaders of the private sector." Hon Minister of Finance Mr. Ken Ofori Atta

Strong, independent leadership
The STAR Ghana Foundation is trusted for its neutrality and is independent of party, regional, religious or ethnic bias. We are a living example of Ghana moving beyond dependence on aid, supporting locally grown solutions to advance Ghana’s development and contributing to sustainable and inclusive change. A Governing Council, made up of eminent Ghanaians from all sectors, provides strategic leadership and oversight, with programmes managed and delivered by a lean secretariat.

Partner with us
With its resources of finance, expertise and innovation, business can really make a difference. But it cannot do so alone.

Advance Ghana’s development by partnering with the STAR Ghana Foundation as part of your corporate citizenship, sustainability and social responsibility commitments. We are interested in strengthening existing and building new partnerships with those interested in initiatives which promote accountability, tackle corruption and support Ghana’s development.

Let’s see where your goals and ours intersect and build sustainable solutions together.

Our key programmatic areas are:
Gender equality and social inclusion
Anticorruption, rule of law and transparency
Citizenship and local governance
Peacebuilding and democratic governance

Champion corporate citizenship
Become a champion for corporate citizenship. We want to work with business leaders committed to shaping best practice in their businesses and in the wider community. STAR Ghana Foundation creates spaces for you to share your experience, to engage in dialogue with others on issues of common concern, and to shape and showcase best practice – for example, around gender equality and social inclusion in employment practices, supply chains, government procurement, service provision and security.

We can connect you with others, including local civil society organisations, think tanks and government partners, as well as international organisations such as Christian Aid and other like-minded organisations to share case studies, research and innovations that illustrate and inspire corporate citizenship.

Fund a project or programme activity
Invest in transformational change by funding aspects of the STAR Ghana programme, including projects on the ground that transform the lives of hundreds of Ghanaians.

We want to work with you to grow philanthropy for social change in Ghana, enabling active citizens and corporate citizens to create Ghanaian solutions to Ghana’s challenges. We are exploring the potential of social investment and enterprise to encourage smarter, more innovative and effective programming focused on results. We will work with national and international organisations and donors to champion the highest standards in fundraising.
About STAR Ghana Foundation
The STAR Ghana Foundation belongs to all Ghanaians. Our vision is to see a well-informed and active Ghanaian citizenry able to contribute to transformational change that advances democracy, accountability and social inclusion.

Contact us
Explore partnerships with the STAR Ghana Foundation by discussing your interests with our team.

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