



REPORT ON HATOF'S KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AND AWARENESS-RAISING AMONG CHRISTIAN LEADERS IN THE MADINA COMMUNITY ON THE ACTUATE PROJECT.

**CSIR – STEPRI, ACCRA
NOVEMBER 30, 2021**



**Prepared by
HATOF Foundation
December 2, 2021**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Welcome address by Chairman	2
2. PRESENTATIONS	2
2.1 Overview of the ACTUATE project	2
2.2 ACTUATE Implementation Plan in Ghana.....	3
2.3 Presentation of the Anaerobic Digestion Demonstrator System	4
3.0 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS	4
4.0 CLOSING REMARKS.....	5
5.0 CONCLUSION	5
ANNEX I: QUESTIONS RECEIVED	7
ANNEX II: AGENDA	8
ANNEX III: PARTICIPANT LIST	9

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The knowledge exchange and awareness-raising among Christian leaders in the Madina community took place on November 30, 2021, in the mini auditorium of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research's Science and Technology Policy Research Institute (CSIR – STEPRI). The meeting, organized by the HATOF Foundation, sought to increase the ACTUATE project awareness and knowledge transfer among Christian religious leaders within the Madina municipality who will serve as change leaders to spread the learning experience and process to address the waste and sanitation issues in Madina and prospects of the ACTUATE project. The program's successful implementation is hoped to, among other things, enhance the continuous awareness, knowledge transfer, communication and for broader information sharing on the overall adoption of the concept of circular economy by engaging the Christian leaders who are key stakeholders to appreciate, replicate and influence communities to instrumentalize the benefits of the ACTUATE project in Madina.

The ACTUATE project, ***“Accelerating the Adoption of Circular Sanitation Demonstration Systems for Improved Health Outcomes (ACTUATE)”***, funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund through UK Research and Innovation, seeks to tackle these significant global development issues and improve lives in communities in Ghana and Nigeria. The ACTUATE project promises to generate electricity, sustainable fertilizer for crops and sanitation improvements through the development of anaerobic digestion demonstrator systems in community schools. These bioenergy outputs, which use organic waste to produce biogas, will demonstrate the effectiveness of this crucial technology to deliver energy while working with and inspiring confidence in local communities. As a collaborating partner of the ACTUATE project, HATOF's role is to support cultural and generational changes in thinking and understand the paradigm of a safe circular economy through awareness creation, social mobilization and environmental campaigns.

Against this backdrop, HATOF has organized durbars, workshops and media engagements in a bid to enhance communication and for broader information sharing on the ACTUATE project since the inception of the project. Notable among them is the media engagement organized on January 28, 2021, which brought together reporters from selected media houses, project partners and representatives from relevant ministries and bodies. HATOF has also organized knowledge exchange and awareness-raising workshops targeting the Muslim community in Madina Zongo, where the construction and set up of the project ACTUATE took place. To further broaden the scope of stakeholders engaged, the HATOF foundation organized another workshop targeted at the Christian community. Christian leaders from various churches were invited, and knowledge exchange and awareness-raising on the ACTUATE project, the benefit of embracing circular economy and the RECIRCULATE as a whole, and the role the church as a body can play in such was made.

This report provides summaries of the engagement session moderated by Ms. MaryJane Enchill, Deputy CEO HATOF Foundation and key meeting documents (including comments and questions from the participants), available presentations and the list of participants.

1.1 Welcome address by Chairman

The meeting was chaired by Mr Ken Kinney (Executive Director – The Development Institute), who also gave the welcome address. In his welcome address, he highlighted the biblical position on energy generation and how several sources and raw materials for energy generation is at our disposal. He further elaborated on the importance of transferring energy from one form to the other. He emphasized the endless possibility of converting waste to wealth through its reform, reuse, recycle or as raw material for energy generation. He mentioned that the circular economy's approach is an avenue the nation can and should explore in the face of its never-ending battle with waste handling and management. He also highlighted the need to enlighten individuals of different sexes, classes, age and backgrounds on various ways they contribute to the menace and can contribute to its solution, buttressing the relevance of the ACTUATE project and HATOF's role of supporting a paradigm shift through activities as the knowledge exchange and awareness-raising with the Christian leaders as witnessed. Mr. Kinney finally welcomed all participants and stakeholders present and expressed his confidence for a successful learning experience.

2. PRESENTATIONS

2.1 Overview of the ACTUATE project



Dr. Richard Bayitse, ACTUATE Project Coordinator, CSIR- IIR presenting on the overview of the ACTUATE project on behalf of Prof. Roger Pickup

The overview of the ACTUATE project was to be delivered by Prof. Roger Pickup – Associate Dean for Research, Faculty of Health and Medicine, Division of Biomedical and Life Sciences, Lancaster

University, UK. He was, however, unable to make it due to other engagements in Nigeria at the time. In his absence, Dr. Richard Bayitse of CSIR-IIR, the project coordinator of ACTUATE, made the presentation on his behalf. Dr. Bayitse took the listeners through the necessitation of the ACTUATE project as a response to the sanitation crisis in Africa. He delved into how ACTUATE was conceived out of an already existing project – RECIRCULATE, and how these two projects promise to improve sanitation through a circular economy system. He asserted that “waste is everywhere and if this waste is not handled in a country like Ghana, it will have dire repercussions on the nation’s economy, health and wellbeing”. The presentation was concluded on what the implementation of the ACTUATE project meant for the future of our children.

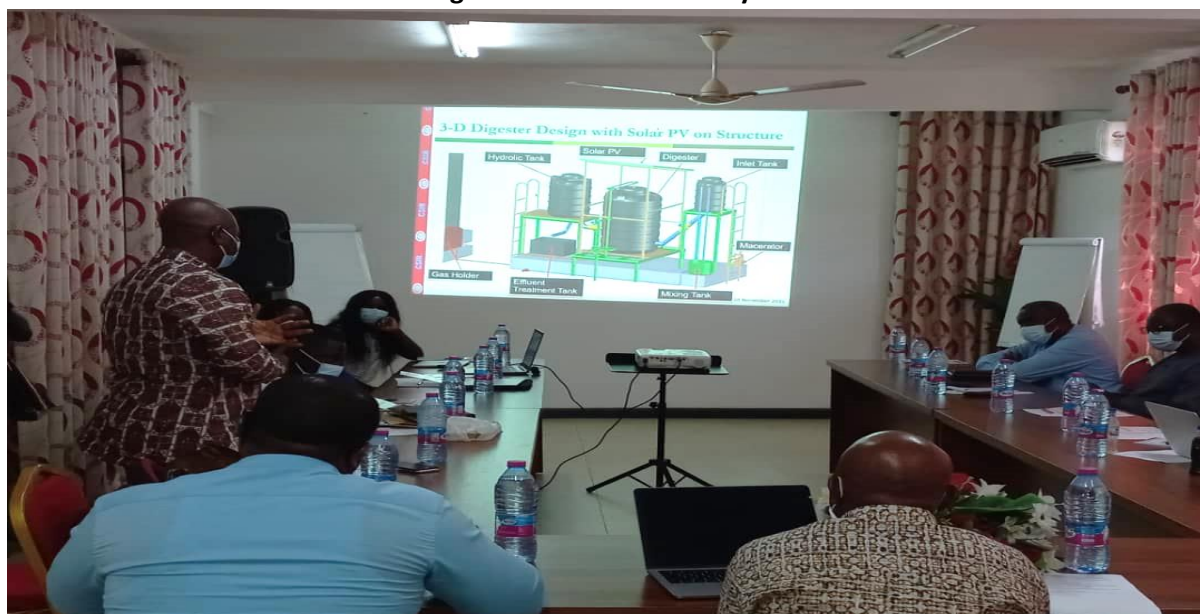
2.2 ACTUATE Implementation Plan in Ghana



Mr. Samuel Dotse, CEO HATOF Foundation presenting on the ACTUATE Implementation plan in Ghana.

The implementation plan of the ACTUATE project in Ghana was presented by the Chief Executive Officer of the HATOF foundation - Mr. Samuel Dotse. Mr. Dotse took the stakeholders and participants present through the implementation plan and state of the ACTUATE project in Ghana. He mentioned the challenges and impacts of the waste management problem, the necessity and timeliness of the ACTUATE program in the Ghanaian climate, and the Workplan of ACTUATE implementation. Stakeholders were enlightened on the relevance of ACTUATE to the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of the Republic of Ghana, set to be achieved by 2030. Roles played by partners, including CSIR, Green Advocacy Ghana and Sewerage Systems Ghana Limited, were explained. The projection of RECIRCULATE and for that matter, ACTUATE at the just ended COP26 in Glasgow and what it meant for the project and the Ghanaian people as a whole was also highlighted to advance the progress of the ACTUATE project in Ghana.

2.3 Presentation of the Anaerobic Digestion Demonstrator System



Dr. Richard Bayitse, ACTUATE Project Coordinator presenting on the Anaerobic Digestion Demonstration System

The Project Coordinator for ACTUATE in Ghana – Dr. Richard Bayitse, made presentations on the anaerobic demonstrator system. Dr. Bayitse took stakeholders through memory lane from the 1980s to 1992 where the concepts of biogas and biodigester came to the limelight. He further took participants through the design of the anaerobic system by elaborating the ACTUATE Sequence in Ghana and explaining the need for the design and construction of the system to be made just above the septic tank of the Umar Bun Hatab Islamic school. He emphasized that the systems can both be constructed underground and in sizes bigger or smaller than has been made for the school, to suit individuals or organizations' specifications. The presentation on the Biodigester system showed two videos on the ACTUATE progress and status in Ghana. The first was a documentary on the ACTUATE project, drawing from key actors' knowledge and opinions, and the second is an video animation on how the Anaerobic Digestion Demonstrator System works.

3.0 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Participants were given the forum to ask questions or make comments on the presentations made. The discussion spanned questions, clarifications, contributions and reactions. Questions were appropriately answered by the project partners present.



A section of church leaders and partners during the Questions/Comments forum

4.0 CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Samuel Dotse delivered the closing remarks in the stead of Mr. Ken Kinney who had to attend to an emergency. He emphasized the ACTUATE project being pertinent and timely – a necessary eco-innovation in the face of the sanitation and health crisis plaguing Ghana. He admonished the cost and benefit analysis of sanitation projects to be made along the lines of social and public good in the short, medium- and long-term rather than along cost-profit margins in the short term only. Church leaders and delegations present were encouraged to pursue eco-innovation projects like that of ACTUATE in the management of waste in their institutions as well as homes. They were also implored to spread the message in their various settings to aid the achievement of the collective goal of waste to wealth and improved health. Mr. Dotse expressed gratitude to all present and contributors.

The meeting ended at 12:45 pm GMT. Participants took a group photograph and packed lunch was served.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The knowledge exchange and awareness creation among the Christian leaders in the Madina community was a successful program held under the observation of all strict COVID-19 protocols. Churches play a significant role in the forming and shaping of ideas and actions among people in any locality. The successful engagement sets the tone for enhanced communication and broader

information sharing on adopting the concept of circular economy connecting waste, human health and energy, food and soil security in Ghana.

We at this moment thank all our partners, esteemed stakeholders and participants including, Mr. Ken Kinney, for facilitating the smooth knowledge exchange and awareness-raising among the Christian leaders in the Madina Community.



Group photograph



A cross section of participants at the Knowledge Exchange programme

ANNEX I: QUESTIONS RECEIVED

1. What are the technical maintenance requirements of the biodigester system for efficiency?
2. What are the repercussions should other forms of waste being fed into the system?
3. Does the effluent from the system need further treatment?
4. How safe is the effluent from the digestion process for discharge into the natural environment?
5. What is the average cost for modelling the project in a home or church?
6. Is the system ready to be rolled out on a large scale – for consumption by the ordinary Ghanaian or are there checks and balances still left?
7. How much waste is to be fed into the system for efficient operationalization?

ANNEX II: AGENDA

ACTUATE Project

Knowledge Exchange and Awareness Raising among Christian Leaders in the Madina Community

Date: Nov. 30 2020

Venue: CSIR-STEPRI Mini Auditorium

Time: 9:00am

8:30–9:00am	Arrival and Registration
9:00-9:10am	Opening prayer/Self Introduction
9:10-9:15am	Welcome Address by Chairperson <i>Mr. Ken Kinney, Executive Director, The Development Institute</i>
9:15-9:30am	Overview of the ACTUATE Project <i>Prof. Roger Pickup, Associate Dean for Research, Faculty of Health and Medicine, Division of Biomedical and Life Sciences, Lancaster University</i>
9:30-9:55am	ACTUATE Implementation Plan in Ghana <i>Mr. Samuel Dotse, CEO, HATOF Foundation</i>
9:55 – 10:10 am	Presentations of the Anaerobic Digestion Demonstrator System <i>Dr. Richard Bayitse, ACTUATE Project Coordinator, CSIR- IIR</i>
10:10 – 10:30am	Questions/Comments
10:40 – 10:45am	Closing Remarks by Chairperson <i>Mr. Ken Kinney, Executive Director, The Development Institute</i>
10:45 – 10:55am	Group Photo
10:55 – 11:05am	Packed lunch/Departure

Moderator: Ms. MaryJane Enchill, HATOF Team Member

ANNEX III: PARTICIPANT LIST
ACTUATE PROJECT- MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

NOVEMBER 30, 2021

CSIR-STEPRI @ 9:00AM

NO.	ORGANISATION	AMOUNT RECEIVED (GH¢)
MEDIA HOUSES		
1.	Church of Pentecost	400.00
2.	Trinity Baptist Church	400.00
3.	Presbyterian Church Savior Congregation	400.00
4.	Assemblies of God Madina Central	400.00
5.	Divine Healers Church No.2	400.00
6.	Apostolic Church of Ghana Madina	400.00
7.	Church of Christ Legon Branch	150.00
8.	Christ Kingdom Salvation Pentecost Church	150.00
9.	GIZ Ghana	150.00
10.	The Development Institute	300.00
11.	Greener Impact International	300.00
OTHER PARTICIPANTS		
NO.	ORGANISATION	AMOUNT RECEIVED (GH¢)
12.	IESS, UG, Legon	400.00
13.	CSIR-IIR	300.00
PROJECT PARTNERS		
14.	Dr. Richard Bayitse	CSIR-Institute of Industrial Research
15.	Samuel Dotse	HATOF Foundation
16.	MaryJane Enchill	HATOF Foundation
17.	Wynny Esi Addison	HATOF Foundation
18.	Deborah Laryea	HATOF Foundation