

# LOCALIZING THE SDGS (GHANA, UGANDA & ZAMBIA)

PROJECT NEWSLETTER



## ABOUT PROJECT

The “Anchoring a Civil Society Model towards Localizing the SDGs” project involves a consortium of four organizations in four countries: Crossing Borders in Denmark (the coordinating partner), the Ghana Community Radio Network (GCRN) in Ghana, Open Space Centre in Uganda and Circus Zambia in Zambia. The objective of the project is to popularize, familiarize and facilitate ownership of the SDGs – to “localize the SDGs” - especially among youths. To this end, each of the organizations in Ghana, Uganda and Zambia work with target youth groups in their respective countries.

## FEATURED WITHIN THE NEWSLETTER

### FEATURED WITHIN THE NEWSLETTER PROJECT UPDATE

- **Ghana update (Ghana Community Radio Network)**

1. Joint Partners' Meeting
2. The Youth Parliament of Radio PAD (Community Radio Station in Damongo, Savannah Region)

- **Update from Uganda**

1. SDGs Youth Community Awareness Social Night
2. Youth Public Dialogue on Governance

- **ZAMBIA UPDATE**

- 1 Activity updates FROM CIRCUS ZAMBIA.
- >Upcoming Events
  - >Opportunities

# GHANA LSDGS PROJECT UPDATE



LOCALIZING THE SDGS PROJECT PARTNERS FROM OPEN SPACE CENTER (UGANDA) AND CIRCUS ZAMBIA JOIN MEMBERS OF THE GHANA COMMUNITY RADIO NETWORK FOR A TWO-DAY MEETING IN ACCRA.

## **JOINT PARTNERS' VISIT AND MEETING**

The joint Partners' Visit and Meeting took place in Ghana from 16 to 21 February 2022. It included a two-day meeting in Accra and two field visits.

The joint Partners' Meeting in Accra was attended by representatives from Open Space Centre, based in Kampala, Uganda and from Circus Zambia, based in Lusaka, Zambia, and also representatives from 22 members - 21 Community Radio stations and 1 Community TV station – of the Ghana Community Radio Network.

The joint Partners' Meeting was the first opportunity for the three African consortium partner organizations to meet in person. It gave the opportunity to learn and share experiences, strategies and the different country-situations of the Localizing the SDGs project.

The first activity of the meeting was a symposium on 18 February 2022 to mark World Radio Day. Building on the Day's global theme of "Radio and Trust", it discussed and applauded the role of Community Radio in particular in facilitating communities to participate in their own development. It featured the experience of GCRN member Radio Ada as a Community Radio station held in deep trust by its community and who was violently attacked the previous month by unknown thugs who warned of further reprisals if it continued to avail information "without fear or favour". Symposium speakers, led by UNESCO and the National Media Commission, unanimously condemned the attack.

On the second day of the meeting GCRN members were greatly enthused by the colourful video and live presentations by Sharaf and Ashia of Open Space Center Uganda and Charlotte and Stan of Circus Zambia. The presentations gave them additional insights into the workings of youth parliaments in the case of Uganda and to the creative use of the arts in the case of Zambia.

# GHANA LSDGS PROJECT UPDATE

## JOINT PARTNERS' VISIT AND MEETING

Localizing SDGs partners from Uganda and Zambia also made visits to two Community Radio Stations that are relatively near the capital, Accra. The first was to Radio Peace, where they had the opportunity to learn about a Community Radio station's operations.



Project partners visiting Radio Peace. From L to R: Kwesi Gharthey-Tagoe, Station Co-ordinator, Radio Peace; Freda Pigru, GCRN L-SDGs Project Co-ordinator; Kakaire Sharaf, Open Space Center (Uganda); Stan Kundelungu, Circus Zambia; Aisha Namutebi, also of Open Space Center (Uganda).

On their visit to Radio Ada the partners from Uganda and Zambia had the opportunity to visit the village of Kewunor and interact with some community members and discuss their experiences in localizing the SDGs.



Project partners with some community members at Kewunor, in the catchment area of Radio Ada. In the middle are Aisha Namutebi (in a bandana) and Kakaire Sharaf of Open Space Center (Uganda) and to the right Charlotte Groen (in a flowered shirt) and up high behind her, Stan Kundelungu of Circus Zambia. To the extreme left is Vero Ayanful of the GCRN Secretariat and Amanor Dziagu of Radio Ada.

# GHANA LSDGS PROJECT UPDATE

## THE YOUTH PARLIAMENTS



The model youth Parliament of Damongo working with PAD FM (the Damongo community radio) held a “demo” youth Parliament session on Monday the 21st February 2022.

46 participants from 23 GCRN members stations and other community members gave audience to this youth Parliament session made up of 6 caucuses representing 6 communities who met to deliberate on SDG 4 Quality education and featured the views, burning issues and proposed solutions of their communities.

# UPDATES FROM UGANDA

## SDGs Youth Community Awareness Social Night



*Open Space Centre hosted a social night as a community-level awareness event for over 80 youths, their leaders and community task force members to come together to share views and ideas around how they have coped with COVID-19 and how they are using their debate to influence change in their communities.*

*The social night was organized under the theme "How young people are using debate to influence change in their communities".*

*The objective of the event is to create awareness about the role of young people in advancing the agenda for sustainable development. The social night was hosted on Saturday 27th November as part of the ongoing University Debate Nationals where hundreds of student debaters convene for a week-long debate camp featuring debate competitions, trainings and public dialogues.*

# UPDATES FROM UGANDA

## Youth Public Dialogue on Governance



*Open Space Centre hosted a Youth Dialogue on Governance as a joint lobby/reflection policy platform for over 120 youths, their leaders and policy-makers to come together to share views and generate policy ideas and commitments around SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions under the theme "Youth Governance and Elections". The objective of the dialogue was to engage young people in debate and dialogue with their leaders and policy-makers around SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.*

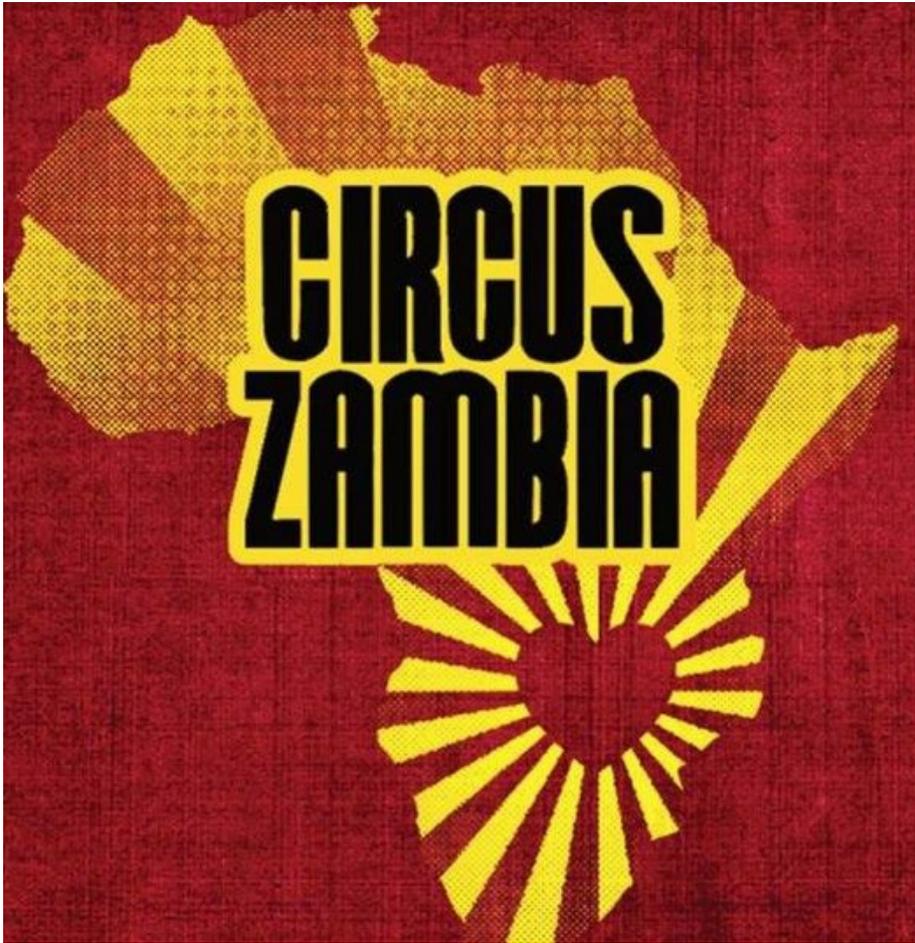
*The theme is premised on the current context where in January this year, Ugandans went to the polls in what was dubbed a "scientific election" with the incumbent, H.E. Yoweri Museveni, emerging as the winning President. Despite the election results being strongly contested, it was yet again another big milestone in the democratization process of the country.*

*With the new leadership ushered in, the debate around the effectiveness of the system and structure of governance in the country is dominating conversations in various corridors of influence. With young people constituting the majority of the population, engaging them in ongoing debate and dialogue around the governance system and structures is a positive step towards contributing to efforts to localize the SDGs by bringing everyone on board especially young men and women.*

# **CIRCUS ZAMBIA**

## **UPDATE**

### **Activity updates**



The main activities carried out during this phase by Circus Zambia have been:

- selection of trainers and youths
- creation of a Youth Task Force
- training on SDG's and meaning in local context by Restless Development
- training on SGD 6 "Clean Water & Sanitation and Hygiene" by Borda Zambia
- youth Parliament planned and executed by Youth Task Force
- community Entry Dialogue planned and executed by Youth Task Force

23 beneficiaries have participated with enthusiasm and achieved new knowledge and awareness. A creative workshop has been done on SDG 6 in order to create a show that has been used in the Community Entry Dialogues to open a debate between the community and the local leaders.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



*CIRUS ZAMBIA: Considering that the elections have been concluded and that with the starting of the summer season COVID-19 restriction might decrease, Circus Zambia will start the cycle 2 and finalize the last activities of cycle 1. This means we will host policy meetings with government representatives, community leaders and youths.*

*For cycle 2 The Youth Task Force will define another SGD that will be the focus of the next activities. We will also host the digital skills training.*

*GCRN GHANA: GCRN will build the capacities of Community Radio station Youth Focal Person to be able to form and train Community Youth Assemblies for debate and community engagement sessions on community prioritized SDGs*

# OPPORTUNITIES

These are some call of proposals that can be relevant for the achievement of some of the SGD's needed in Zambia:



•Reckitt company offer funds to NGO's for achieving universal access to equitable sanitation and hygiene by 2030

<https://www.oneyoungworld.com/lead2030/21-22/challenge-sdg6-reckitt>

•AstraZeneca pharmaceutical company offer funds to tackling Air Pollution for Healthy People and a Healthy Planet

<https://www.oneyoungworld.com/lead2030/21-22/challenge-sdg3-astrazeneca>



Reckitt company offer funds to NGO's for end hunger by 2030

<https://www.oneyoungworld.com/lead2030/21-22/challenge-sdg2-reckitt>