INTRODUCTION
The Coconut Waste Project (COWAP) seeks to achieve a green-circular economy and create livelihood opportunities through value addition to coconut husks in the La Nkwantanang-Madina Municipality. The project targets coconut vendors, unemployed youths, communities within the La Nkwantanang-Madina Municipality (LaNMM) and communities surrounding the LaNMM. The project is co-funded by the European Union (EU) under its “Promoting a Circular Economy and Local Development Programme”. The COWAP is being implemented by CERATH Development Organization (CDO) (lead), La Nkwantanang-Madina Municipal Assembly (LaNMMA) and the Tree Crops Center (TCC).

Welcome to our project newsletter for August, 2021 which presents highlights on COWAP activities undertaken within the month of August.

COCONUT VENDOR LEARNING GROUP INTRODUCTORY MEETING
The project team commenced introductory meetings for learning groups of coconut vendors within the University of Professional Studies (UPSA), and Madina-Antima. The purpose of the learning group meetings was to introduce the project to new members and the project team to new members and discuss the role of the vendors on the project, and benefits that they project expects to bring to them. These learning group introductory meetings took place on the 17th July, 2021 and 22nd of August, 2021. In the upcoming months, the project team will engage the remaining coconut vendors learning groups formed at Oyarifa, Ashaley-Botwe, Dome, and Adenta.

COMMENCEMENT OF GREEN ENTREPRENUERS PROGRAM
The Green Entrepreneurs Program (GREP) began with a two-day training of trainers (ToT) for the project team. The ToTs was designed to explain the training content to the GREP Trainers. Subsequently, the basic training commenced from 16th August, 2021 to 20th August, 2021. The objective of the GREP is to empower the youth, women and persons with disability to leverage the socio-economic opportunities created by the Coconut Waste Project. At the pilot phase, a total of 12 participants successfully completed the basic training.
COWAP ENGAGES SOCIAL PROTECTION AGENCIES WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA.

The project team has engaged selected social protection agencies within the project area to discuss possible partnerships in facilitating access to various forms of social protection services to project beneficiaries. These services include access to loans/credit facilities, insurance policies, and pension schemes. The team engaged Peoples Pensions Trust, National Health Insurance, Petra Trust, and Quality Life Assurance. The project team also used the opportunity to introduce the coconut waste project to the respective social protection agencies. The project team also took turns to understand the operations and products of the service providers, their packages for the informal sector, and requested for a possible collaboration towards sensitization and registration activities for the project beneficiaries.

Find more about the Coconut Waste Project on our website and social media handles:
Facebook: CERATH Development Organization
LinkedIn: CERATH Development Organization
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Project implemented by

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