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**THE COCONUT**  
WASTE PROJECT



# The Coconut Waste Project

## Newsletter

The Coconut Waste Project JANUARY-MARCH 2023

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### Project Brief

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 January- March 2023, which highlights COWAP activities undertaken within this period.

### Project Mid-Term Evaluation

The coconut waste project conducted a midterm evaluation as part of its activities on monitoring and evaluation. The project at the later part of year 2 contracted the services of an independent evaluator to assess the progress achieved in line with the expected outcomes and impacts since its inception in January 2021. During the exercise, the evaluator engaged all relevant stakeholders and target groups within the project landscape.

The exercise provided the project team with a valuable opportunity to conduct an objective assessment of their implementation strategies and approaches, enabling them to receive feedback on project activities.



*The evaluators engaging the UPSA coconut vendor learning group*



## Project Consortium Meeting

Prior to the commencement of activities outlined for the third year of COWAP, the project team held a consortium meeting in February 2023 at LaNMMA's premises. At the meeting, the project partners expressed excitement of the significant progress made thus far and were eager to continue the good work. In the discussion of the scheduled activities for the year, suggestions that were made include a multiple trial session of the processing flow with processing workers to enhance their capacity, community engagement on the factory activities, and the provision of well labelled sacks for waste collection.



*Project implementing partners at the introductory meeting*

## Visit by the European Union Delegation – Ghana



*A group picture with the project team and the EU delegation at the CDO premises*

The European Union delegation to Ghana paid a visit to the Coconut Waste Project (COWAP) team on February 2nd, 2023, to mark the beginning of the project's third year and assess its implementation status. The visit commenced with a presentation and discussion at the CDO office in Accra, where the project team updated the EU representatives on progress made, expected outcomes and impacts of the initiative, and the project's next steps.



*EU Delegation touring the processing centre at Damfa*

Afterward, the project team and EU representatives embarked on a field visit to the processing site at Damfa within the LaNMM to assess and validate the level of completion of the coconut waste processing centre. The EU delegation were impressed on the progress of the project and were eager to see the factory commence operations. The delegation was notably impressed with the job creation component of the project, specifically its focus on empowering women and youth in the municipality.

## Circular Economy Seminar by the European Union – Ghana

The Coconut Waste Project (COWAP) team honored an invitation by the European Union Delegation in Ghana to participate in the 3rd edition of the Circular Economy Seminar on 2nd March 2023 at the Accra International Conference Center. The event was a partnership between the EU, the Ministry of Finance, and the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovation.



*COWAP team member in conversation with the Director of MESTI*

The purpose of the event was to create awareness of the importance of a circular economy and identify actions and measures to boost the efficient use of resources that can contribute to mitigating climate



change, minimise biodiversity loss, and reduce pollution.

In addition to COWAP's participation, the project exhibited coconut waste value-added products (cocopeat, coconut shells, and coir fiber) and explained the relevance of the initiative and the EU's funding.



*Participant's visit to the exhibition booth*

## The Coconut Waste Project

Find more about the Coconut Waste Project on our social media sites:

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