



VOLTA RESILIENT FOUNDATION

**VRF**



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## **2024 ANNUAL REPORT**



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FOUNDATION

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# Our Mission

Volta Resilient Foundation is a grassroots 501c3 nonprofit, established in 2016. The Volta Resilient Foundation builds on traditional systems of community culture to establish stronger social and environmental safety nets so that all children are protected and provided the best possible upbringing to become the changemakers of tomorrow. VRF's vision is to end all forms of child trafficking, forced labor, marriage, and abuse, and restore the environment to its natural state. We do this through the community-based networks established over the last decade to ensure we work together to promote holistic development and communal engagement.



## Our Story

The Volta Resilient Foundation was created by love. Love of the people. Love of Mama Africa. Love of justice and kindness. And the love of each other. Volta Resilient Foundation (VRF) was manifested by the hard work and dedication of hundreds of community members, from grandparents to local leaders, who partnered with us to initiate programs in Ada, Ghana, in 2016. Volta Resilient is based on the philosophy of holistic community-based engagement and development with the aim of ending child trafficking and forced labour slavery in Ghana.

We do this by providing support and collaboration through the opportunities embedded in our programs. We believe an essential ingredient in sustaining positive behavior change is education and training. We understand that child trafficking and slavery are symptoms of deeper-rooted issues, and Volta Resilient along with our amazing partners is committed to addressing the systemic barriers to change.

Since our inception, we have partnered with 85 communities along the Gulf of Guinea coast, and the Volta River, and Lake to carry out 30 projects. Additionally, our on-going programs include Liberate Me, Water is Life, and The Mangrove Project.



# Our Projects

## Water is Life

Water is Life! That's why VRF has partnered with LifeStraw to provide pure water filters and WASH education to rural communities dependent on polluted sources, which often causes sickness and death, especially among children. Waters around the Volta River are confirmed to contain toxins, protozoa, bacteria, viruses, and chemicals. With this project, VRF provides water purification systems, education, training, and monitoring for schools and communities. Over 2000 households and 31 schools with a population over 12,500 were provided with access to pure water through the project in 2024.



## Liberate Me

Many communities in Ghana, including our operational communities in Ada, are usually cited for the trafficking of children and using children in hazardous jobs; VRF instituted the "Liberate Me" project since our inception. The project is our Anti-Child Trafficking and Forced Labor Project, which ensures children are rescued, rehabilitated, and given educational opportunities to rebuild their lives. So far, this project has rescued and enrolled over 100 children. 42 rescued in 2024.



## Anti-CLaT

The VRF Anti-Child Labor and Trafficking project is a sub-project under the flagship "Liberate Me" project. The project supported by the Ghana Fisheries Recovery Activity supported VRF to engage fishing communities in Ada and help influence behavioural change in the trafficking of children and the use of children for fishing. Through the project, five Community Child Protection Committees (CCPCs) were formed to advocate for and protect the development of children at the community level. Over 50,000 community members through 18 communities were engaged and sensitized.





# Our Projects

## Environmental

In the picturesque Volta delta and coastal regions, the breathtaking beauty of mangroves has been a natural wonder for centuries. These incredible trees not only provide a safe haven for endangered species but also play a crucial role in flood control and carbon sequestration. Unfortunately, the value of these vital forests has been overlooked, leading to deforestation and environmental degradation in Ada and its neighbouring areas.

The Volta Resilient Mangrove Project stands as a beacon of hope, working hand in hand with local communities to conserve existing forests, restore degraded areas, and expand mangrove habitats strategically. Our mission is not only to combat climate change impacts but also to empower communities with sustainable alternative livelihoods. By fostering partnerships and implementing long-term solutions, we aim to ensure the preservation of these essential mangrove forests for generations to come.

Join us on this remarkable journey of environmental preservation and community development as we work tirelessly to safeguard the rich biodiversity and ecological balance of our coastal regions. Together, we can make a profound impact and create a brighter future for our planet. In 2024, we partnered with state and foreign agencies to help improve the ecological situation of Ada. We aimed to institute a Community Resource Management Area (CREMA) in various communities to help protect the ecosystem. Over 20 communities in the Ada Songor Ramsar site has been engaged towards the project.



# VRF 2024 NUMBERS

## WATER IS LIFE

### 2000 HOUSEHOLD



Over 2000 households in Ada provided with Lifestraw water purifies

### 31 PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### 120 UNITS OF PURIFIES FOR SCHOOLS

120 units of LifeStraw Community-size were successfully installed in schools, directly impacting over 12,500 students' access to safe water.

### 12,500 STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO WATER

## LIBERATE ME

### 5000 CITIZENS

Over 5000 community members engaged and sensitised on the effect Child trafficking

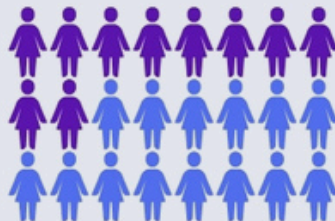
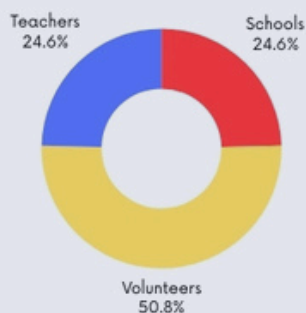
### 2000 STUDENTS

Over students community members engaged and sensitised on the effect Child trafficking



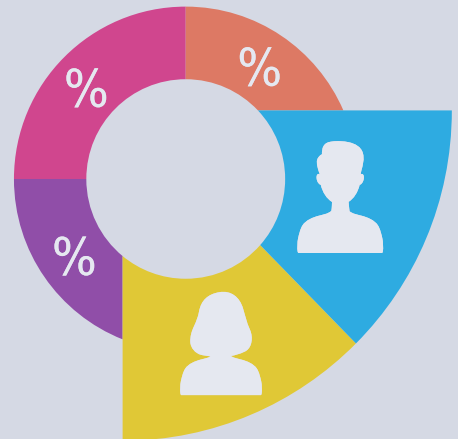
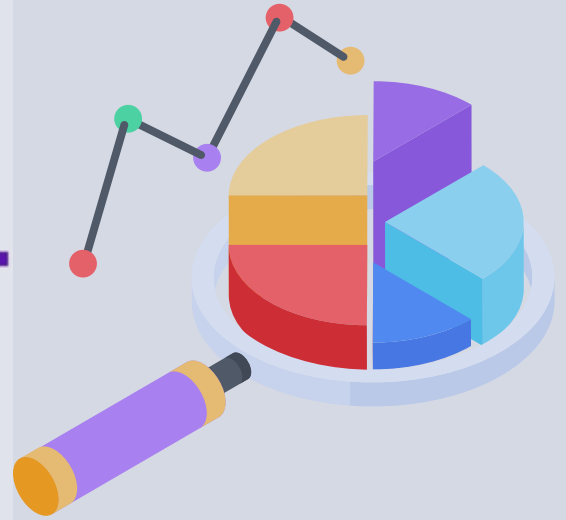
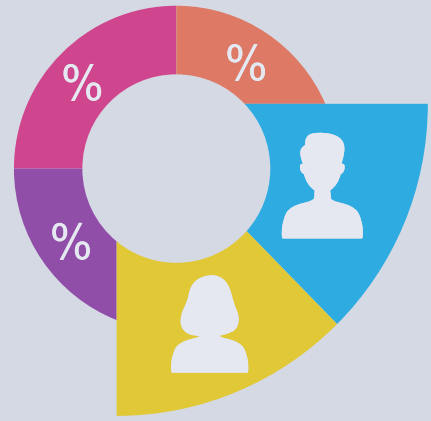
### 36 CHILDREN RESCUED TRAFFICKING

## 2024



Over 13,000 students impacted

over 50,000 community members engaged and impacted





# Financial Summary

## CREMA

**\$19,992.00**

\$19,992.00 in 2024 was expended on the Community Resource Management public, state agencies and community engagement process.

Through this, a resource map of the Ada Songor enclave has been developed, surveys conducted and community durbar.

## FISHING FREE

**\$30,78.78**

Through the Ghana Fisheries Recovery Activity, VRF, through its Fishing Free project, has been engaging fishing communities in Ada -East and West in the bid to influence behavior towards child labor and Trafficking (CLaT). \$30,78.78 was expended on this project in 2024.

## VRF SCHOLARS

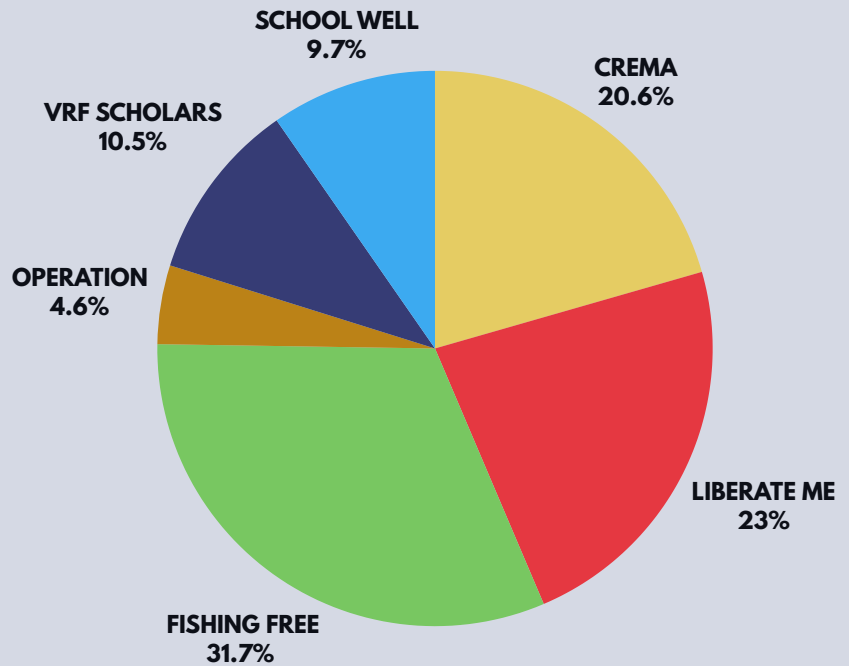
**\$10,217.70**

\$10,217.70 was spent of our VRF Scholars. This includes fees, uniforms, shoes and all other academic materials.

## WATER IS LIFE

**\$1,218,886.60**

With support from Lifestraw, our WASH project, "Water is Life", received the biggest budgetary allocation for the year. This enabled us to provide over 2000 pieces of water purifiers to 2000 households and 31 schools in the Ada-East and Ada-West Districts.



## VRF OPERATIONS

**\$4,463.78**

The operational expenses of VRF during the year amounted to 4.6% of the total budgetary expenses of the year, thus \$4,463.78

## LIBERATE ME

**\$22,413.82**

Our Anti-Child Trafficking and Child Labor Project has also not been left out. As much as \$22,413.82, constituting 23% of the total budgetary allocation, was assigned to the project.

## WELL PROJECT

**\$9,400.00**

The Well for Schools Project is one of our freshest projects. The project aims at providing access to fresh water to schools and rural communities in Ada. \$9,400.00 was spent on this project to provide access to clean water in schools and rural communities.





## Building Sustainable Communities for the future







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