



## **Statement from Ghana CSOs Platform on SDGs**

**Presented by Owuraku Boafo Justice SDG 12 Sub-Platform Convener**

### **Theme: Synergies among the Goals**

The Ghana CSO Platform on SDGs is pleased to be part of this thematic consultations on the SDGs as part of the Voluntary National Report being organized in three Regions of Ghana – Cape Coast, Kumasi and Tamale.

For the Middle Belt Ecological Zone- Kumasi, our selected theme is “Synergies among the Goals”. This is the first time we in the Ashanti region are meeting in common to share ideas about SDGs in achieving the 2030 Agenda and to foster a more sustainable development .

From the perspective of the Ghana CSO Platform on SDGs, it is gratifying to note that the complexity and interrelatedness of development goals present enormous opportunities for accelerated achievements as an action towards achieving one goal also leads to helping achieve many other goals. For instance, one action of supporting farmers improve profitability towards ending poverty (SDG 1) would contribute greatly towards ensuring food security, improved

nutrition and sustainable agriculture (SDG 2), promote good health (SDG 3), empower parents to support their children's education (SDG 4), enhance opportunity for women and girls to participate in development (SDG 5) and with enhanced gender relations lead to effective and sustainable use of water resources (SDG 6) etc.

Another scenario is outcome of a simple action of producing sustainability as in the case of sustainable mining in such a way as to prevent or minimize damage to the environment (SDG 12). This one action means a lot to helping achieve SDG 15 of helping protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems; SDG 12 of promoting climate action, SDG 2, SDG 6, SDG 14 etc.

Hence, the interrelationships among the goals provide synergy as the **adequate** and **simultaneous** targeting of two or more goals would have far reaching consequences on many other goals than just targeting only one goal at separate times or period. It is therefore important for stakeholders to consider greater integration and partnerships to realize holistic achievements of the goals. Implementation should not be limited to goals and targets with tier 1 indicators alone as is largely happening currently.

We are by this statement make a passionate appeal to the regional coordinating council and local authorities to help us in localizing the SDGs in the region to promote sustainable development at all levels of development. The membership of the Ghana CSOs SDG Platform is open to all Ghanaian FBOs\NGOs

Attempts should be made to implement targets with tier 2 and 3 indicators as well. We call on all to invest generously than ever to helping achieve the SDGs. The business opportunities in the

SDGs are enormous. Let us all take advantage of the opportunity offered by the SDGs to contribute to making Ghana and the world a better place.

Thank you.